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again and again

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UN nuclear parley begins after Israel drops veto

By LIAT COLLINS and Reuters

The United Nations Conference on Disarmament yesterday launched negotiations in Geneva to stop the production of nuclear bomb-making materials, after Israel gave in to American urging and dropped its effective veto.

The pact, expected to take years to complete, is viewed as the next step in multilateral nuclear disarmament following the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) banning underground blasts.

Opening up Dimona, Page 3

"Israel shares the significance of the moment," Israel's Ambassador Yosef Lamdan told the 61-member conference after it agreed to set up a negotiating committee on fissile materials. But he added: "Of course, Israel reserves our position on the substance of the issue involved."

Israel will not object to the UN efforts to launch fresh talks on halting production of fissile material, such as plutonium and enriched uranium used in nuclear bomb-making. This was made clear in a statement that the Prime Minister's Office issued yesterday following press reports on a possible change in Israel's nuclear policy.

The communique, however, stopped short of committing to opening the Dimona nuclear reactor to international inspections, as the news stories implied, and said Israel still has "fundamental problems" with the treaty on fissile material.

Israel's defense policy has traditionally been based on never publicly stating whether or not it has nuclear capability and leaving the possibility as a deterrent. And Israel has been the only member of the 61-state United Nations Conference on Disarmament that had not agreed to join negotiations on the proposed treaty.

"President [Bill] Clinton asked Israel not to oppose the convening of an ad hoc committee that will begin formulating a treaty that will ban the production of fissile material," the statement quoted Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as telling the cabinet yesterday.

"We are talking about a procedural move [and it] could take years before all the participating countries reach a formulated and agreed upon treaty. We have made clear that our support for establishing the committee does not imply the adoption of a position towards finalizing the treaty or its contents," the statement said.

"In consultation with the defense establishment, we have made it clear to the US that Israel has its own considerations stemming from our unique situation in the region, in view of which Israel will require clarifications from the US. Similarly, we made it clear that we have fundamental problems with the treaty and we will discuss these too with the US."

These problems apparently refer to the issue of access and inspections.

But yesterday's agreement deliberately left the scope of talks ambiguous. The United States and its allies have pushed for the talks to cover just future production of fissile material. But developing countries, including Pakistan, reiterated their call for existing stocks to be eliminated.

States would have to pledge to grant international inspectors access to uranium enrichment plants, as well as facilities which reprocess spent plutonium. Non-aligned countries including Egypt, Iran, South Africa, India, and Pakistan made clear they still expect the conference to start moves to negotiate total nuclear disarmament.



Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai (foreground) seems all smiles at yesterday's cabinet meeting on the budget, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu makes a point (left). Last night, Netanyahu announced he would agree to increase the defense budget by an amount to be determined this morning. (Flash 90)

PM pledges more funds for defense

By DAVID HARRIS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last night issued a statement pledging to increase the defense budget in 1999.

Speaking to ministers during the cabinet's state budget debate yesterday, Netanyahu said three areas of government activity must be made priorities in next year's budget: strengthening defense, investing in infrastructure, and bringing about renewed economic growth.

"The prime minister said he has taken a strategic decision to increase the defense budget in the light of increasing threats, including those from far afield," read the statement. "The amounts and their weight relative to the budget will be detailed at the [security] cabinet's meeting," which is scheduled for 8 this morning.

The package outlined by Netanyahu will be multi-year, "something never done in the past, and this will be referred to in the [1999] budget," concluded the statement.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, accompanied by Chief

of General Staff Lt-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, told the cabinet that social spending has been increased over the last decade at the expense of the defense budget.

"The State of Israel requires a deterrent capability and warning systems, including those in space, for the active and passive defense of the home front, and these are in the realms of billions," said Mordechai.

Mofaz warned that Israel is presently facing "unreasonable risks."

The Defense Ministry is demanding a NIS 2 billion spending increase next year. This year, the ministry was allocated NIS 33.6 billion.

A Treasury spokesman said last night the increase will be approved by the Treasury if it does not lead to fiscal expansion.

The Treasury's baseline is that the budget deficit not be allowed to climb over the target set in the Budget Deficit Law at 2 percent of the gross domestic product or some NIS 7.8b.

See DEFENSE, Page 2

Labor dismisses national unity talks

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Chances of a national unity government appeared to be fading yesterday as the Labor Party leadership concluded that there was no real basis for forming one.

After a series of meetings with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Labor Party leader Ehud Barak concluded there are insurmountable obstacles blocking the way to setting up a unity government.

Barak told colleague MK Haim Ramon yesterday that no understandings had been reached in the meetings, which focused on the government's joint agenda and the possibility of cooperation between the prime minister and his deputy - Barak - if a unity government were to be formed.

Ramon criticized the clandestine nature of the talks and expressed doubt as to whether Barak should have complied with Netanyahu's request to keep the talks secret. He conceded, however, that a responsible opposition leader could hardly refuse a prime minister's invitation to meet.

Sources close to Barak said yesterday that the meetings were necessary to explore whether there was a common basis for a unity government, such as a real intention on Netanyahu's part to

advance the peace process and a readiness for "power sharing."

The sources pointed out that, as the largest party in the Knesset, if Labor joined the government it would be an equal partner, which means the Likud would have to give up a number of ministries and other power strongholds.

However, Barak was not con-

No need for unity gov't - Analysis, Page 2

vinced either of Netanyahu's readiness for the change in government or for promoting the peace process, the sources said.

The sources dismissed the internal criticism that Barak had been rash or naive in meeting Netanyahu, while the latter leaked the talks, thus manipulating him, without really meaning to form a unity government. On the contrary, they said, Barak acted with extreme responsibility and caution by exploring the basis for a unity government.

The sources pointed out Barak and Netanyahu discussed much more than internal political matters but went into foreign and security affairs, including the threats from Iran and Iraq.

The sources estimated

Netanyahu had initiated the move when he had been under extreme pressure to implement the pullback by the end of July. He also was aware of the contacts between his senior ministers, Ariel Sharon and Yitzhak Mordechai, and MK David Levy with Barak. At the same time, MK Aryeh Deri had been pressuring him to form a unity government before the Knesset's summer recess.

Senior Labor MKs yesterday supported Barak for meeting Netanyahu and some admitted in private talks that they would have done the same thing were they in Barak's place.

"When the prime minister invites you, it's very difficult for the opposition leader to refuse an update on political and security affairs," Ramon said.

"The question is not why Barak went to those meetings, but what kind of prime minister is it, whom no one can believe a word he says, and who isn't bound to the least principles?" Ramon said.

MK Dalia Itzik (Labor) said Barak's meetings with Netanyahu and the ad hoc which followed when they became public knowledge provided a crushing answer for all those MKs who criticized Barak for refusing to cooperate with Netanyahu regarding a unity government.

"Netanyahu will not change his manipulative tactics and lies. There is no one to talk to," Itzik said.

Communications Minister



Labor Party leader Ehud Barak (Brian Heidler)

Limor Livnat (Likud) said yesterday she prefers a unity government to elections, if it comes to that.

Livnat also criticized the talks' secrecy, saying, "I certainly don't feel comfortable waking up in the morning and reading in the newspaper about these meetings. The Likud leadership should have been briefed on this, and on other things."

Health funds to charge for visits to specialists

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved, by an 8 to 7 vote, the levying of direct fees for visits to medical specialists and outpatient clinics. The measure also raises payments for prescription drugs.

The move allows the Treasury to transfer over NIS 500 million to the health funds in the form of grants and advances to be repaid by the end of this year.

But it was uncertain whether the user's tax could be fully implemented.

The Israel Medical Association (IMA) declared that its member doctors would not serve as collection agents for the health funds or the Treasury.

Nor would doctors refuse treatment to those who do not pay, the IMA said.

The Israel Pensioners' Association said it would recommend to its 700,000 members that they refuse to pay the additional fees. It cited the National Health Insurance Law, which bars the public health system from withholding care from those who cannot or will not pay for it.

The measure was passed in the committee by the coalition MKs, except for National Religious Party MK Eli Gabbai and Yisrael Ba'aliya MK Yehuda Harel, opposition members opposed it.

The four health funds said yesterday that their previously announced plans for reducing services remain in effect. Because Kupat Holim Clalit cannot commit to paying the remaining 25% of July salaries today, the Clalit workers still plan to operate according to a reduced Shabbat schedule tomorrow.

The health funds reacted to the vote, in a joint statement, by "congratulating the prime minister for his personal intervention into the effort to find a solution to the funding crisis, and the health minister for his efforts."

But they added that the decision "doesn't solve the health system crisis, since most of the funds are meant for paying [our debts] to the hospitals, and when that's done, there won't be enough money left to continue services."

Clalit, Maccabi, Leumit and Meuhedet management called on the prime minister to produce a structural solution to the crisis by revising the formulas for allocating health taxes to the funds, taking into account the aging of the population and the introduction of new drugs and technologies.

When all the agreements are signed by the Treasury and the Health Ministry in a few days, the health funds will begin charging NIS 10 to NIS 20 for a visit to a medical specialist (not one's primary physician) per quarter per person, plus up to NIS 20 for each visit to a hospital outpatient clinic.

There will be a ceiling of NIS 80 to NIS 150 per quarter per family, depending on the health fund. Very-low-income families will be exempt, while new immigrants during their first year in the country and people over the age of 65 will pay up to half of the ceiling.

In addition, prescription drugs will rise in cost by 10% to 15%, with a ceiling of NIS 190 to NIS 220 per quarter.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar said that doctors will not agree to collect fees from patients.

"This would seriously harm the doctor-patient relationship," he said.

Investigators suspect Semtex used in attacks

NAIROBI (AP) - Investigators suspect the deadly plastic explosive Semtex was used in the attacks on the US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, but no link has been found to any particular group, a senior US official said yesterday.

Detection of the Czech-manufactured explosive, which is far more powerful than TNT, supports the theory held by many in the US government that the nearly simultaneous attacks last Friday were the work of a sophisticated terrorist organization.

But the official said no group had been identified by FBI and Kenyan and Tanzanian investigators.

An Israel Army Radio report from Nairobi also signaled that investigators suspect the bombers used Semtex.

The FBI says finding out what kind of explosives were used and how would be critical to the investigation.

So would an informant, and US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright on Monday offered a \$2 million reward for information leading to the capture of the "cowards that committed this act."

Investigators yesterday began to piece together evidence from the bombings, with 14 arrests in Tanzania and a Kenyan guard's eyewitness account providing possibly important clues.

At least 230 people are known to have died in twin terrorist bombings in Kenya and Tanzania. Nearly 5,000 were wounded.

More bodies were pulled from the rubble in Nairobi yesterday, bringing the death toll here to 220, the National Disaster Operation Center said.

Israeli soldiers continued to dig for a woman named Rose. Her voice fell silent Sunday, but they heard a tapping noise Monday that spurred them on. Three-times yes-

terday, Israelis dropped a microphone into the crevice where Rose was believed to be trapped, but heard nothing.

But early in the evening, the Israelis informed the Red Cross that there might be two survivors, and medical teams were standing by, said Red Cross spokeswoman Nina Galbe.

In Tanzania, 14 foreigners were arrested in connection with the bombing of the Dar es Salaam embassy that claimed 10 Africans' lives, said police spokesman Aden Mwanunyangwe.

Those arrested were six Sudanese, six Iraqis, one Somali and a Turk, he said, citing "dubious characters and intelligence information that they may have taken part in the incident."

In Kenya, the East African Standard said guard Joseph Okindo and his colleagues, armed only with short wooden clubs, confronted five men, stopping them at

a barrier to the embassy's front parking lot, and forcing them to turn into the rear parking lot.

The attackers then jumped from the truck and opened fire with automatic rifles. At least one marine returned fire and one of the attackers threw a hand grenade.

Moments later, the truck exploded, Okindo told the Kenya Television Network on Monday.

"We saved people's lives by sending it to the rear entrance," Okindo told the Standard. "If we hadn't done that, I don't think I would be alive and talking to you now."

Okindo "resisted heroically," US State Department spokesman James Foley said in Washington.

US President Bill Clinton said yesterday that the US's long record of fighting terrorism has made Americans more vulnerable to attacks.

See ATTACKS, Page 2

US stocks plunge

NEW YORK (AP) - US stocks plunged yesterday as Japan's worsening economic problems renewed worries that a slowing US economy will dry up growth in corporate profits.

The Dow Jones industrial average at one point was down 257.98 points in heavy trading. A late wave of buying cut substantially into the losses, but the Dow was still down 112.00, closing at 8,462.85.

That left Wall Street's best-known indicator up by 7 percent on the year, less than half the 18% gain

it held just 3 1/2 weeks ago. At its low for the day, it was down 10.9%, or more than 1,000 points, from the July 17 record close of 9,337.97.

It would take a sustained drop of 20% to bring on a bear market. A 10% slide is deemed a "correction" on Wall Street, or a pause in a rising market.

Another indicator of unease was the rise yesterday of the US dollar and US Treasury bonds.

In Tel Aviv, the Maof dropped 3.06% to 333.56. Full market reports, Page 15



NEWS

in brief

Missing Palestinian may be planning attack

Iman Amar, a 19-year-old woman from Kalkilya, disappeared on Sunday from her home, and her family believes she may be planning a terror attack against Israel on behalf of Hamas.

The Israel Police began searching for her yesterday. Her family had informed the Palestinian Police upon realizing she had disappeared, and the PA police informed their Israeli counterparts through the District Coordinating Office.

Family members said Amar had expressed anger at Israel ever since her fiancé was arrested and sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for involvement in a terror attack.

Before she disappeared, they said, she told them she planned to join Hamas and die a "martyr."

PA police scuffle with yeshiva students

Palestinian police nearly engaged in a fistfight with yeshiva students at Joseph's Tomb in Nablus yesterday.

Eyewitnesses said the scuffle broke out after a Palestinian officer refused to allow construction equipment to be unloaded from a bus that transported the students to the site.

An IDF officer helped stop the fight and separated the PA officer from the yeshiva students. The PA police then announced that until the equipment was removed the tomb would be closed.

Later, the IDF removed the equipment and the PA reopened Joseph's Tomb.

PA preparing economic plan for statehood

The Palestinian Authority is drafting a long-term strategic plan in advance of the announcement of an independent Palestinian state next May. PA International Cooperation and Planning Minister Nabil Shaath told the Voice of Palestine yesterday.

The plan addresses funding issues and points to a need to elicit more monies from European donors to be used largely for development of villages around Jerusalem and major towns in the PA areas.

Hussein tries to still succession rumors

Jordan's King Hussein, in an apparent attempt to quiet rumors that have risen with his illness, said yesterday that his brother, Crown Prince Hassan, would become king once his rule ends.

"The heir to the throne is my brother, whom I have chosen over many others in the past years, and he has proved to be up to the responsibility and has been performing his duties to the utmost," Hussein told Radio Monte Carlo from the US, where he is undergoing treatment for lymphatic cancer.

Hussein, the longest-reigning ruler in the Middle East, marked 46 years on the throne yesterday. He felt so good after his first chemotherapy treatment that he piloted his own C-4 aircraft to Washington for a brief respite, Queen Noor said in an interview broadcast Monday.

Arafat, in South Africa, meets with Mandela and his deputy

Mbeki slams Israel

By PAUL HARRIS

CAPE TOWN (AP) — After meeting for nearly an hour with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday, South Africa's deputy president accused Israel of stalling in the Middle East peace process.

"It seems to us that all that [Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu is doing is to try to buy time to implement his programs, rather than to work for peace for the whole Middle East region," Deputy President Thabo Mbeki was quoted as saying in an interview with the South African Press Association.

Mbeki is the anointed successor to President Nelson Mandela, who plans to retire before next year's elections.

Arafat's three-day state visit began with a meeting with Mandela, who awarded him South Africa's highest honor for foreigners — the "Order of Good Hope."

Since apartheid ended with 1994's first all-race elections, Mandela has rewarded other allies from the days of the anti-apartheid struggle such as Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi and former Indonesia president Suharto.

Arafat presented Mandela with the Star of Holy Jerusalem medal while an official read a statement praising Mandela's role in bringing democracy to South Africa and support for creating a Palestinian state.

"Congratulations, Yasser," Mandela said as he draped the sash over Arafat's green army shirt and black-and-white head scarf.

Officials also signed two declarations of intent for closer links in health and education.

It was Arafat's first visit since



South African President Nelson Mandela presents the 'Order Of Good Hope' to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat during a meeting in Cape Town yesterday.

South Africa and the Palestinian Authority established diplomatic ties in 1995.

In a scene unthinkable under white rule, Arafat also held talks

with Marthinus van Schalkwyk, leader of the opposition National Party which ruled during apartheid. Posing for photographers, the two men shook hands and smiled

broadly. Arafat described the meeting as having gone "very positively," while van Schalkwyk said: "It shows that things can change."

PA calls for probe of salesman's death

By STEVE RODAN

Palestinian Authority chief Yasser Arafat has ordered an investigation into the death of a Bethlehem-area insurance salesman, whom a Palestinian human rights group charges was tortured.

The investigation concerns the death on Sunday of 45-year-old Walid Mahmoud Qawasma, a father of eight and manager of a Bethlehem insurance office. Qawasma was in detention for two weeks and died on his way to a Nablus hospital.

PA officials said Qawasma died as a result of the extreme heat in his cell. They said his body temperature was 41 degrees when he was brought to a Jericho hospital. From there he was transferred to Nablus's Rafadiya Hospital, where he died on the way.

Qawasma's family said they found bruises around his head and chest. The Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group said this was confirmed by those who conducted the autopsy. PA officials have not released the findings of the autopsy.

Both Qawasma's family and the human rights group said the PA had not accused Qawasma of anything.

The PA investigation will be headed by Col. Mohammed Bashawi. In an interview on PA radio, he said he hopes the investigation will be completed within a few days.

Human rights activists said previous PA investigations into the death of Palestinians in official custody have virtually never led to prosecutions or convictions.

Causes for previous unity governments don't prevail now

ANALYSIS

By MARK A. HELLER

The revelation that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak have been holding secret talks about the possibility of forming a national unity government has revived, yet again, public discussion of one of the most persistent themes in Israeli politics.

This idea resurfaces every time a government runs into some difficulty — which is to say, on a fairly regular basis — but it has actually been adopted only twice, in the face of urgent threats about which there was a fairly broad degree of national consensus.

The first occasion was in the spring of 1967, when the government had a stable majority but felt the need to mobilize the nation to deal with the Egyptian-led Arab military threat that gave every sign of escalating to war.

The second was in 1984, follow-

ing an inconclusive election, in order to deal with the twin problems of extricating the IDF from the Lebanese quagmire and taming the hyperinflation and balance-of-payments crisis that were ravaging the Israeli economy.

These governments functioned reasonably well, as long as they focused on the immediate issues. In fact, the second one was indispensable, because no other parliamentary constellation would have permitted a government to act.

But once those discrete problems were dealt with, the grand coalitions quickly outlived their usefulness. And when other, more diffuse challenges emerged, the programmatic differences between the main parties led either to the withdrawal of one (in 1969, in response to the American proposals concerning the peace process with Egypt) or to mutual neutralization and a

government of national paralysis in 1986 — a government that was reconstituted after the 1988 election, notwithstanding prime minister Shamir's rejection of the London Agreement fashioned by Shimon Peres the year before.

In both cases, the price of national unity was a much weakened opposition, which could neither challenge the government nor stimulate the public debate. And in the latter case, this development was accompanied by conceptual stagnation, resulting in the failure both to anticipate the intifada and to react properly to it.

There is no doubt that a national unity government is a popular idea. This might appear strange,

given the intensity and the passions of political differences in Israel. Perhaps it is precisely the discomfort with those divisions and the fear about where they may lead that explain the desire to make them go away.

There is also a belief that a government with a large Knesset majority would somehow be able to function more efficiently, or at least to pursue its objectives more effectively in the face of Arab and international pressure. But this presupposes some common objectives, especially on the most divisive issue of all — the peace process — and there is little evidence of that.

Previous national unity governments had nothing to do with narrow Knesset majorities; they were formed to deal with imminent crises, which did not include an impasse in the peace process. In fact, it was differences over the

peace process that ultimately led to their dissolution.

The current deadlock over the second redeployment may indeed be the basis of a crisis, but it is not universally perceived as such, which is why a national unity government is far from a foregone conclusion. Still, the redeployment issue is the closest approximation we have to the real crises of 1967 and 1984.

So if the historical record provides any clue, it is that a national unity government, if formed now, could at best hope to approve the redeployment, for which polls show greater support in the public than in the current governing coalition. But unless its purpose is narrowly defined — to act quickly on this issue and then move immediately to new elections — its fate will probably be the same as that of its predecessors.

We deeply mourn the passing of our beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather

HARAV YIRMIYAHU ALOY

of blessed memory,
the doyen of the S.A. Rabbinate,
who was brought to his eternal rest
on Tuesday, 19 Av 5758, August 11, 1998,
in Johannesburg.

Families: Gourarie, Kurtsak

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our dear mother,
sister, grandmother and great-grandmother

ROSE JOSEPH SOLOMON

Shiva at the home of Chana and Chaim Solomon, 28 Jabotinsky, Jerusalem.
The Family



The faculty, staff and students of
The Shalom Hartman Institute
extend heartfelt condolences to
Chaim Solomon
on the passing of his mother.

ROSE RACHEL SOLOMON ז"ל

May you draw strength and comfort from
the love and tender care you bestowed
on your mother all her life

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of

RACHEL LISOGURSKI ז"ל

(née KALLES)

Widow of the late Abraham Lisogurski

The funeral will take place on Wednesday, August 12, 1998,
at 4 p.m. at Ramat Hasharon (Morasha) Cemetery.

Shiva at Rehov Rabina 3, Ramat Aviv.

Chana and Menashe Broder, Shlomit Broder,
Carmel and David Broder,
Pnina and Navot Manor and the Family
in Canada and in Israel

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LM Ericsson Israel Ltd.
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of Partner

on the sad loss of his

Mother ז"ל

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offer their condolences to the family of

Dr. M. BERNARD RESNIKOFF

Honorary fellow and member of the Advisory Council
of Jerusalem University College

He will be fondly remembered as a friend and advocate on
behalf of Christian higher education in the Holy Land context.

Dr. Sidney DeWaal
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AMI - The Jerusalem Center
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mourns the death of

Dr. M. BERNARD RESNIKOFF ז"ל

a close friend and Board Member
and extends condolences to his wife Violet
and the entire family

Shlomo Hizak and the staff



Bridges for Peace
mourns the loss of

DR. M. BERNARD RESNIKOFF

International Board member,
and loyal friend and advisor.

We extend heartfelt condolences
to his family.

DEFENSE

Continued from Page 1

Ministers will reconvene for a third discussion on the budget after failing to vote last night on the Treasury-proposed NIS 173.8b. spending package, within an overall budget of NIS 217b.

The war of words between Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel intensified yesterday with the former warning cabinet colleagues they will be responsible for increased unemployment if they accept the Treasury's budget proposals.

Sharansky has in recent weeks become increasingly outspoken against the central bank's tight monetary policy and the Treasury's refusal to allow any breach of the government's budget deficit target.

"Don't hide behind the governor's theories," he advised his cabinet colleagues, adding, "The minute you vote for the Treasury's program, you will be responsible for the unemployment, which will continue to increase next year."

While Frenkel was speaking he was subjected to series of attacks, principally from Sharansky and Science Minister Silvan Shalom.

Frenkel told the cabinet any increase in the budget deficit "would be a dangerous step that would bring about an increase in the government's debt, a rise in interest rates in the long term and increasing the tax burden in the future, in addition to hitting employment and growth."

Sharansky, Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein and the remaining five Yisrael Ba'Aliya MKs are threatening to vote against the budget in its present outline form.

The debate on the particulars of each ministry's expenditure will commence at the end of this month.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place tonight at 8:00 p.m. at the YMCA Auditorium for a concert of The Whiffenpoofs from Yale. Tickets at the entrance.

ATTACKS

Continued from Page 1

"I think it is important that we

all as Americans send a clear signal to the world that we are not going to back away from our involvement with other people, and we are not going to back away from our opposition to terrorism."

Clinton said at the beginning of an environmental speech.

"It makes us more vulnerable as targets because we have taken the toughest stand around the world

against terrorism. Now is the time to bear down, not back up, on that, and that is my determination and I believe that is what the American people support."

At the wreckage of the Dar es Salaam embassy, a dozen FBI agents swept and raked Laibon Road in front of the embassy building to search for evidence.

At the United Nations, the Security Council condemned the bombings as "despicable and barbarous terrorist attacks," saying it plans to consider a resolution on the issue.

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Members of the IDF rescue squad in Nairobi brief OC Home Front Command Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ofir about their progress yesterday, at the site of the bombing. The team is concentrating its efforts on trying to rescue a woman called Rose who might still be alive. (AP/IDF Spokesman)

Yassin: Embassy bombers acted in self-defense

Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin said yesterday that he does not know who was behind the bombing of two US embassies in East Africa, but that whoever was responsible acted in "self-defense."

"America has placed itself by the side of Israel against the Arab and Moslem world," Yassin said in an interview. "So it should be no surprise when people seek revenge against this unjust American policy."

Friday's nearly simultaneous attacks on American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania claimed at

least 217 lives - including 12 Americans - and injured nearly 5,000. The bombing in Nairobi was the deadliest attack ever on a US embassy.

Asked about the bombings, Yassin said: "I consider what happened self-defense by someone who was seeking revenge for the injustice of American policy and the destruction it has brought on their country."

There has been no claim of responsibility in the attacks, but Israeli and US officials have said they were looking into possible involvement by exiled Islamic

militant and Saudi financier Osama Bin Laden.

Yassin said Hamas knew nothing of the bombers' identity.

"We have no information if Bin Laden stands or does not stand behind these bombings," he said. "We have nothing to do with Usama... He is not in our country."

The sheikh scoffed at US investigators, saying, "American intelligence is deluded - they do not know who their enemy is."

He explicitly denied any Hamas involvement in the attacks.

"We are not willing to open fire on America," he said. "Our battle

is on the land of Palestine and we will not take it outside... because it does not serve our cause or our people."

Yassin said Hamas has not carried out any terror attacks lately not because of any ideological change but "due to circumstances in the field... the fighters are facing."

"This is because the Israeli, Palestinian and American intelligence are all working together against the activities of our sons," Yassin said. But Hamas, he said, "will continue its jihad... It had not laid down its weapons."

(AP)

IDF probes Hizbullah infiltration

2 soldiers wounded in south Lebanon

By DAVID RUDGE

Two IDF soldiers were lightly wounded yesterday evening when mortar shells were fired at the Beaufort Castle position in the eastern sector of the security zone.

The soldiers were given first aid at the scene and then taken to Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Safed for further treatment.

Meanwhile, the army is continuing to investigate how a Hizbullah gunman reached the outskirts of an outpost in the security zone manned by paratroopers and escaped despite being shot by the soldiers.

Initial inquiries into the incident, which occurred on Sunday evening at the Soujud stronghold in the eastern sector of the zone, have revealed that the gunman hurled a grenade at one of the soldiers.

The grenade failed to explode because he had forgotten, appar-

ently in his haste, to pull the safety pin on the device.

This, reportedly, enabled the soldier who was patrolling the perimeter and was apparently taken by surprise by the gunman to grapple with the intruder.

It is still not clear, however, why the paratrooper, despite the apparent suddenness of the encounter, did not immediately fire his own weapon at the gunman, who was also armed with an automatic rifle as well as at least two grenades.

According to some reports, it was only when other soldiers hearing the commotion reached the scene that shots were fired at the Hizbullah gunman.

Despite being wounded he still managed to evade the paratroopers after throwing down his weapons.

The inquiry being led by Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, head of the IDF's Lebanese Liaison Unit, is also concentrating on how the small Hizbullah squad managed

to reach the area without being seen.

One of the gunman climbed a short but steep rock face to reach the ramparts of the stronghold and then either cut through or clambered over barbed wire fencing surrounding the position, also without being observed.

The gunman had reached the trench encircling the ramparts before being suddenly discovered by the patrolling paratrooper.

Gerstein yesterday met and debriefed the soldiers and officers who were at post at the time of the incident and his findings will be submitted to OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazi, who will turn them over to Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz.

The incident was dubbed a debacle in some Hebrew newspapers. According to one report, the soldiers may have been complacent, and a few suffered from low motivation.

PA minister squares off with Palestinian daily

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

A battle has erupted between a Palestinian minister and the leading Arab daily in the territories over the newspaper's right to publish advertising in the minister funds objectionable.

The battle pits Palestinian Authority Information Minister Yasser Abbed Rabbo against *Al Quds*.

Abbed Rabbo launched the first salvo when he called on Palestinians to save their money and not publish congratulations for the new PA cabinet in any of the three Arabic-language dailies. Abbed Rabbo's suggested that Palestinians intending to publish congratulations instead donate the costs of the advertisement to those Palestinians who lost their homes

due to IDF demolitions or donate it to PA-aligned committees to confront Jewish settlements.

The minister pledged that he would publish the names of the donors in Palestinian newspapers.

But *Al Quds*, which enjoys the most advertising in the Palestinian sector, refused to publish the names of these donors.

In response, Abbed Rabbo's chief aide, director-general Mohammed Suleiman, filed a complaint with the acting PA attorney-general, charging that this violates the PA press law. He accused *Al Quds* of accepting advertisements for sex while refusing a PA request to pay for the publishing of a list of donors.

Al Quds director-general Marwan Abu Zulfur replied yesterday, saying, "Nobody has the right to tell the citizens how to use their

money."

Al-Quds dedicated its lead editorial yesterday to the subject of its battle with the PA. The editorial said it regards Abbed Rabbo's campaign as a violation of citizens' rights. It said a newspaper has the right to refuse advertising it regards as being against its interests.

The newspaper wondered where the Information Ministry is obtaining money to publish advertising at a time the entire PA is sustaining a severe budget crisis. The newspaper suggested that the PA use its money to help confront Jewish settlements.

"Finally before the minister asked *Al-Quds* to publish an advertisement for him, he should pay the NIS 10,000, the price of his previous advertisements at *Al-Quds*," the editorial concludes.

Air collision averted over Eilat

By LIAT COLLINS

Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom yesterday confirmed that a US Air Force Hercules transport nearly collided with an Israeli passenger plane above Eilat in May after it had strayed from course.

The matter was raised in a parliamentary question by Tsomet MK Pini Badash, who asked about the possible lack of communication with the military plane and whether new instructions had been issued in view of recent "near accidents" between planes.

In his response, received by Badash yesterday, Yahalom wrote that the US plane had been flying outside Israeli airspace and had been in contact with the Jordanian air traffic controllers monitoring the area.

Yahalom said that, since Jordanian and Israeli airspace and airports are very close in the Eilat/Akaba area, there are clear flight regulations on both sides to prevent planes from entering the airspace of the other country without prior coordination.

"The US plane penetrated the [Israeli] airspace without permission or prior coordina-

tion. The Eilat air traffic control made a security separation between the [Israeli] plane which was about to land in Eilat and the US plane which had strayed from course," Yahalom said.

He said the Israeli and Jordanian control towers maintain radio communication since the first Eilat flight to Akaba, "a fact which helps prevent this type of incident." Yahalom said the incident was the result "of a clear mistake by the US pilot" and noted that the Air Traffic Authority had reported on it to the US Embassy.

Opening up Dimona

BACKGROUND

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

activated and became capable of producing nuclear weapons.

On May 27, 1963, prime minister David Ben-Gurion wrote Kennedy that he agreed in principle to US inspection visits, which were to take place every two years. In return, Kennedy approved the first sale of offensive weapons to Israel.

Neither Kennedy nor Ben-Gurion took another step. About one month later, Ben-Gurion resigned. That November, Kennedy was assassinated. The two new players were Levi Eshkol and Lyndon Johnson.

For six years, Israel and the US haggled over the terms of Israel joining the NPT. Aides to Eshkol urged him to end the US visits to Dimona, saying Washington was leaking the information on Israel's nuclear program to the media as part of its campaign to force it to sign the treaty.

On April 12, 1969, Western sources say, US scientists visited Dimona for the last time. A *New York Times* report says the scientists complained of Israel restrict-

ing their access in the facility and concluded that they could not be sure that Israel was not producing nuclear weapons in Dimona.

According to Prof. Yuval Ne'eman, former science minister and a pioneer of Israel's nuclear program, the plan to allow inspections is dangerous for Israel.

"Israel's position has always been that we won't be the ones to initiate a nuclear attack, but we reserve the right to defend ourselves," he told Israel Radio. "If we join the covenant, it means that inspectors will be able to come and see what we've done until now, in order to be sure we don't do more than that in the future."

According to an expert closely identified with Israel's nuclear program, Israel's refusal to sign the NPT has allowed it to create an infrastructure that gives it the option to produce what is necessary.

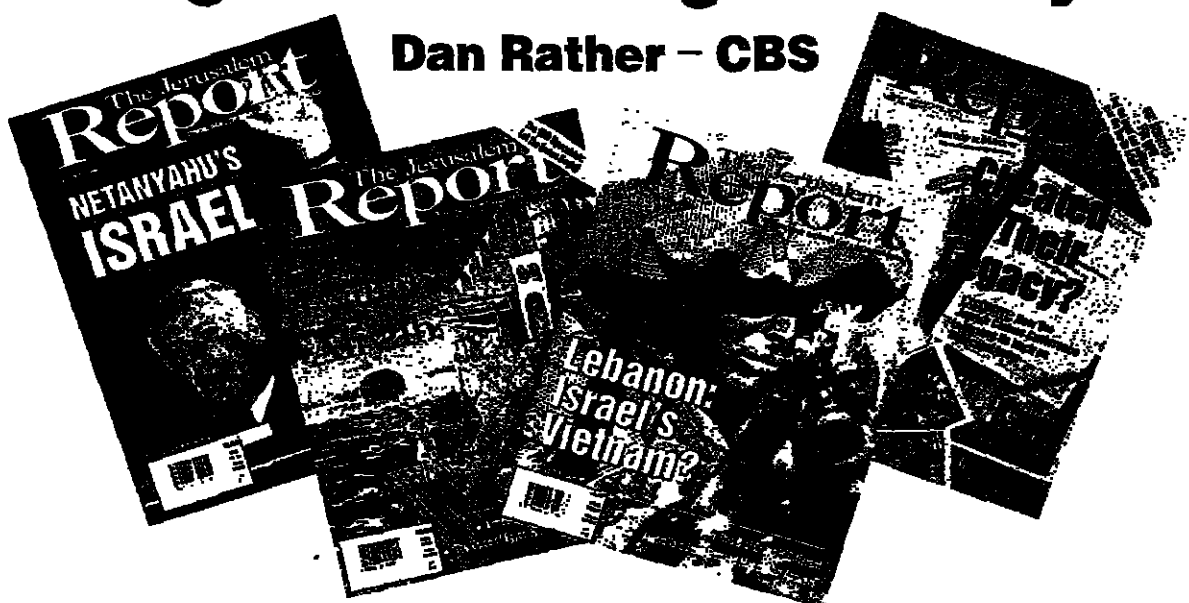
"The NPT turned out to be a joke," the expert said. "Because Saddam Hussein signed the NPT, it gave the German firms an excuse to sell nuclear materials to Iraq without being held responsible for their actions."

If Israel signs the treaty, he said, it will lose its options and no longer be able to use the threat of nuclear capability as a deterrent.

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AIR CANADA

Meretz announces J'lem city council list

By AMY KLEIN

Meretz presented its list of the Jerusalem municipal elections at a press conference yesterday, with the party's mayoral candidate, Naomi Chazan, saying the city in the last five years has become more divided than when she was born in 1947.

"Jerusalem has been called the 'City of Angels,' unfortunately, no one wants to live here," said Chazan, the first woman to run for the post.

Her campaign goals are to fight religious coercion, create equality between Arabs and Jews, and to increase employment opportunities to stop people from leaving the city, she said.

Chazan announced her candidacy last Wednesday, following local Meretz leader Ornan Yekutieli's sudden resignation.

Yekutieli, who headed the local Meretz list for 10 years, quit because of a fight with national Meretz leaders over the list's composition. He plans to run on a separate list.

Chazan will be running only for mayor, not for a place on the city council. The first seat on the Meretz list for city council went to Joseph Pepe Alolie, a former engineer for the Israel Electric Corporation and local party

activist. City councilwoman Anat Hoffman has the second seat, followed by Meir Margalit, a municipality worker with dealing with disadvantaged youth, and Udi Arnon, a city planner.

Yesterday morning Rafi Ben-David — an independent candidate who had formed her own Revolution list — joined the Meretz list. Ben-David, 32,

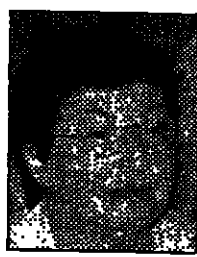
is a single mother from the Katamonim neighborhood and wants to help single mothers and underprivileged families. Meretz will give the sixth seat to an Arab, party chairman MK Yossi Sarid said.

Sarid denied reports that the party considered joining a coalition with Mayor Ehud Olmert's United Jerusalem party.

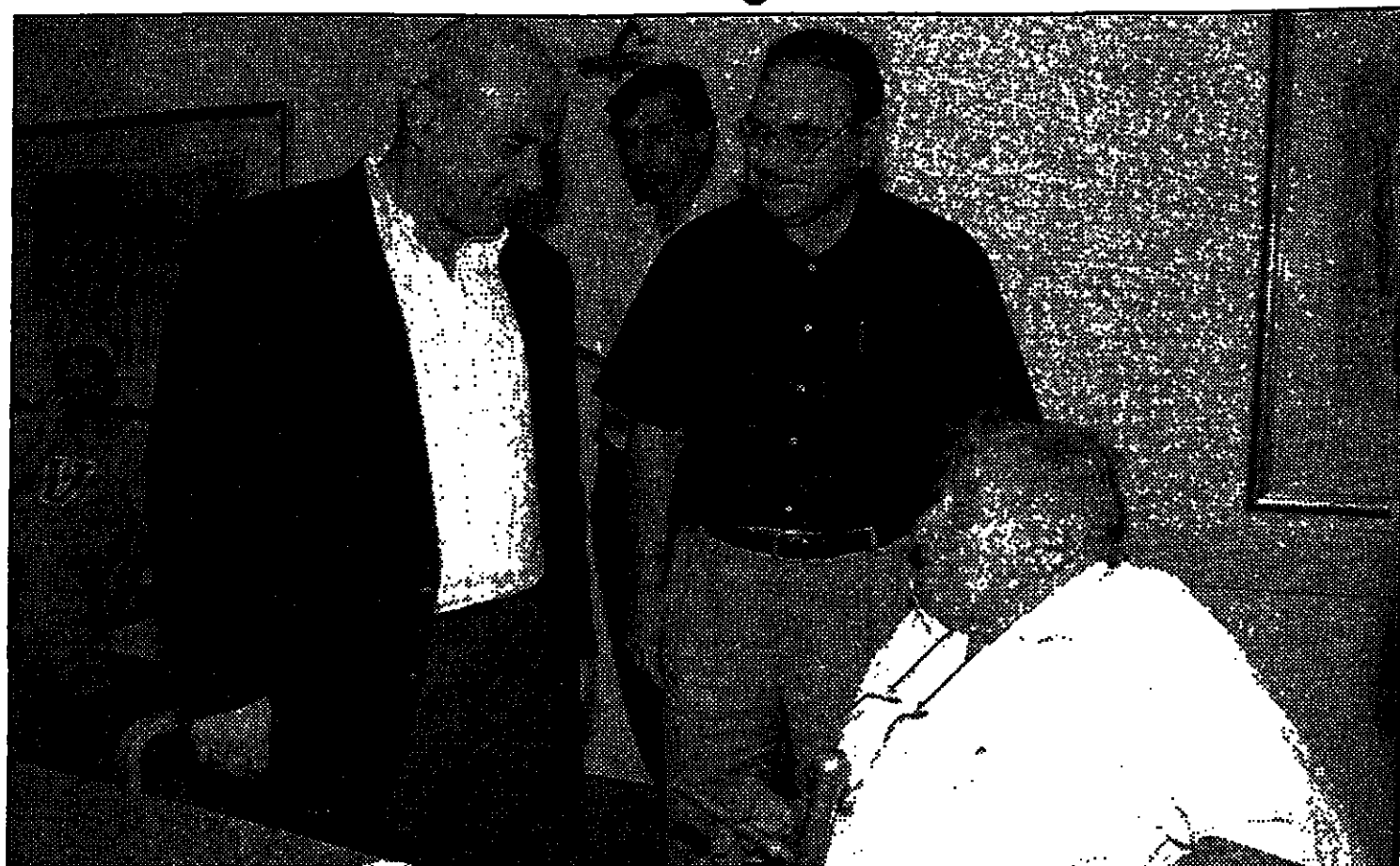
The Jerusalem Meretz branch will not form a coalition with other parties before the election, Hoffman said. Hadash preferred to run an all-Arab list rather than join Meretz, she noted.

Later in the afternoon, Labor mayoral candidate Shimon Shetreet signed a coalition agreement with Third Way leader Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani.

Shetreet guaranteed the fifth seat on the list to Avi Balashnikov, head of Kahalani's bureau at the ministry. The first four seats will be divided between Shetreet's One Jerusalem faction and Labor Party members.



Naomi Chazan
(Isaac Harari)



Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani (left) chats yesterday with former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek (seated), as One Jerusalem mayoral candidate Shimon Shetreet looks on. Kahalani's party, The Third Way, signed an agreement with Shetreet that assures a Third Way representative a place on Shetreet's city council list. (Isaac Harari)

MKs check up on women recruits

By LIAT COLLINS

Left, right, left: MKs Yael Dayan (Labor), Ruby Rivlin (Likud) and Naomi Chazan (Meretz) went back to the army for one day yesterday.

The three, members of the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women, followed the entire induction procedure of 450 women.

The recruits started their service at the IDF Induction Center at Tel Hashomer by parting with parents, receiving inoculations, and then being issued uniforms.

"The committee was pleased to discover that the cut in the length of service for women soldiers has not affected the range of jobs offered to the recruits," said Dayan, its chairperson.

Dayan told the new recruits that as an IDF officer she had taught new immigrants to use weapons.

Chazan, who chairs the subcommittee on the IDF, said, "The draft is a challenge for girls who must find a way to fulfill themselves and their aspirations in what is a situation of inequality, although the IDF is making an effort to become more equal. Our challenge as committee members is to make the IDF give women complete equality."

She said she was happy to see the new fields in army service that have opened up to women soldiers as a result of pressure from the committee, such as pilots' courses and eligibility to be sea-going naval officers.

"And I was even happier to hear from the recruits themselves that the large majority want to serve in combat and quality positions," Chazan said. "There is no doubt that the girls' motivation is much greater than the IDF dares to deal with."

Rivlin said, "The importance of the induction of a girl into the IDF is the same as the importance of the induction of a boy, in that the aim of the IDF and state is that they will fulfill themselves."

"We should aim for more positions being filled by women soldiers even if they are not yet combat soldiers," he added. "They certainly should be alongside the combat soldiers and training them."

Dayan noted that among the possibilities newly available for female soldiers are jobs ranging from truck drivers to electronics, which prepare them for work in later civilian life. "There is much more openness to the girls' own wishes, not just to place them to fill a hole," she said.

Yahalom: GSS interrogators should be investigated

By AMY KLEIN

The attorney-general should investigate the General Security Service officers responsible for interrogating the four Kiryat Arba minors arrested on suspicion of arson, Transportation Minister Shaul Yahalom wrote in a letter to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein yesterday.

The minors, who were released last week, complained that GSS investigators had violated their rights. Yahalom wrote that the minors were arrested without a warrant and were not read their rights. The GSS threatened the minors with a longer arrest if they kept silent.

Yahalom wrote, and pressured them to take polygraph tests — which minors are not obligated to take.

"I do not know of one incident in the history of the state where the state's authorities violated the basic rights of minors so severely," Yahalom wrote. He also asked Rubinstein to establish a committee to determine permissible interrogation procedures for minors.

"Whoever violates the basic rights of minors must be held accountable for their actions," Yahalom said. "The State of Israel, as a Jewish democratic state, cannot ignore such severe violations of the rights of its citizens by the GSS and police."

Yahalom was referring to Jewish minors, his spokesman said.

One of the minors' mothers complained that the local media have ignored the plight of her son, "because they are hoping to sweep it under the table. We have no recourse through the Israeli court system, because they condoned the interrogation. But we will not let this rest."

The family, who immigrated from New York 15 years ago, sent a four-page letter to the US Consulate yesterday. They complained Israel violated international treaties pertaining to the rights of minors, and that America should help them get compensation from the Israeli government.

"An Israeli binational is subject to the laws of the country they live in," said the consulate spokesman, Duncan McKanness. An American citizen who wants to sue the Israeli government should take it to an American court, and not the consulate or state department, he said.

Avi Leipner, an international lawyer trained in America, said he doubts the family has a case. "Technically they could sue Israel, but the United States government would have to represent the family in an international court. Given the fact that both countries have friendly relations, I don't think that's going to happen."

Beduin threaten to avenge man's death

Beduin leaders threatened to avenge the killing of a 22-year-old Beduin and voiced a lack of confidence in the state's justice system yesterday, following the release of the main suspect.

Suleiman Jalidan, whose wife is pregnant with their second child, was shot to death late Thursday night while he was trespassing in a firing zone near the Tzibor Junction in the Arava.

A warden from the Nature Protection and National Parks Authority suspected of shooting Jalidan was arrested and was released on Friday morning by a Beersheba court.

Beduin leaders expressed their outrage at a press conference in Beersheba.

"This was a murder that has been expected due to the wardens' political attitudes toward Beduin," said Suleiman Hamid, speaking on behalf of Jalidan's Azazna tribe.

"I have experienced many house demolitions, and displays of brutality of violence against Beduin by wardens."

"Until this point, when they took away our rights and destroyed our homes, we were silent. We have had our fill [of abuses] and will be silent no more," MK Taleb A-Sanaa (Democratic Arab Party) said.

"Perhaps you think there will be a day or two of rioting and we will calm down, but we will not calm down... we no longer trust the justice system, which has issued a license to kill."

He announced that there will be a protest march tomorrow from the Agriculture Ministry's Beersheba office to the city's courthouse.

NPNA director Aharon Vardi yesterday expressed his condolences to the bereaved family and asked the Beduin leaders and the family to meet with him, in a bid to calm the situation.

He said that the authority is still waiting to receive the police report on the killing. (Iim)

Budget cutbacks in PM's Office cripple Jewish-Arab camp

By DAVID RUDGE

A Jewish-Arab summer camp that has sought to foster co-existence during the last decade has been dealt a financial blow by the Prime Minister's Office.

The Shemesh non-profit organization, which runs the Galilee camp, has also been hit by a drop in funding from abroad. It has been forced to markedly curtail its activities.

Shemesh director Harry Rhodes said former sponsors in Europe had informed the organization that they would not support the project this year because of the deadlock in the peace process.

"The number of participants in the summer camp had grown from 50 youngsters from Moshav Shorashim and the neighboring Moslem village of Sha'ab when we started in 1989, to 300 last

year," said Rhodes, himself a resident of Moshav Shorashim.

The diversity of participants also grew, he said, with youngsters coming from five other Arab towns and villages in the Galilee, including Christians, Druse and Beduin, as well as Moslems. Jewish youths came from 15 Jewish communities in the Misgav region, where the camp is located, and nearby Karmiel.

"This year because of the financial cutbacks we have been forced to reduce the number of summer camps from three to one and the number of participants from 300 to just 75 — from Sha'ab and Saknin and Jewish youngsters from Karmiel and the Misgav region," he said.

Rhodes said that Shemesh, which promotes Jewish-Arab co-existence in the Galilee through projects like the summer camp,

had in the past received NIS 45,000 from a fund run by the Prime Minister's Office, as well as NIS 30,000 from the Education Ministry.

This year, however, it received NIS 22,000 from the Education Ministry and nothing from the Prime Minister's Office. "The response we received from the latter was that they did not have enough money and that other cases or issues had higher priority," said Rhodes.

David Bar-Ilan, director of communications for the Prime Minister's Office said in response that he would examine the matter.

"We are interested in this project and would very much like to help. I'm going to look into the budgetary problems which may have caused this rejection and see if they can be resolved," said Bar-Ilan.

IMA chairman scores Knesset for smoking violations

By JUDY SIEGEL

The entire Knesset building should be off-limits to smoking, because the 1994 law passed there to restrict smoking in all work places is being violated every day, Israel Medical Association chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar says.

In a letter to Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon — an enthusiastic cigar smoker — Blachar wrote that the law allows smoking only in designated smoking areas that meet strict criteria, but that during his many visits to parliament, he noted that the law is not enforced. Non-smoking MKs, staffers, and visitors are forced to breathe in toxins that endanger their health. Declaring the Knesset building a no-smoking area would be an example to all, Blachar said.

The law allows employers to set up smoking areas, but also enables them to prohibit smoking in the

entire workplace if they wish. If employers agree to smoking areas, these must be in areas where non-smokers don't work, enclosed by walls, and well ventilated. They may not be located in open corridors.

The Knesset, however, has no separate smoking rooms, and the designated areas are in open corners and corridors. MKs, staffers, and visitors are often seen smoking under no-smoking signs.

Deputy Health Minister and Shas MK Shlomo Benizri, a fierce opponent of smoking, said he fully supports barring smoking in the Knesset. "I myself suffer from the smoke. The Knesset is a sealed building, without open windows. I appealed to Tichon dozens of times, asking him to enforce the law, but to no avail. Ushers told me they are afraid to hand out fines, as MKs, staffers, and others threatened and ridiculed them for being nudniks.

They were afraid.

"I asked Health Minister Yehoshua Matza for help, too, but he himself smokes cigars."

Knesset spokesman Giora Pordes — who said he smokes in his office — said Blachar's suggestion will be sent to Knesset legal advisers for comment, "and then we'll see what happens." Pordes added that the law restricting smoking in the workplace "is a balance between the rights of non-smokers and those of smokers" and that "our ushers have given out a number of fines."

The Knesset spokesman, who could not cite how many smokers have been fined, was also not aware of the fact that open-air smoking corners, such as those in the House, violate the law.

The law also allows employers to forbid smoking throughout the premises, without taking the demands of smokers into consideration.

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High Court orders Yishai to hire women

By NOAH STREET and Ilim

The High Court of Justice ordered Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai to make more of an effort to hire women for positions in the upper echelons of the National Insurance Institute.

The court also effectively dismissed Yishai's appointment of Baruch Marom, in ruling yesterday on a petition that Rachel Ben-Ziman, legal adviser for the Israel Women's Network, filed against Yishai following Marom's appointment as a deputy director-general for the NII.

A position for an NII deputy director-general became vacant at

the end of last year. At the time, there were seven men and one woman serving as deputy directors-general. Yishai asked the committee supervising appointments to public companies to approve the Marom's appointment to the vacant position despite the imbalance. The committee approved Marom's appointment for a six-month trial period, with the understanding that Yishai would consider a woman the next time there is an opening for a deputy director-general.

The IWN later was informed that Hana Ranel, who has worked for the NII for 26 years, also had applied for the job but had

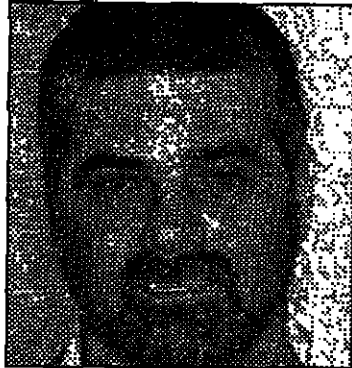
received no response.

The IWN petitioned the High Court, questioning Yishai's judgment for appointing Marom.

Justices Mishael Heshin, Yitzhak Zamir and Dorit Beinisch ordered the ministry to conduct a thorough search for a qualified candidate to replace Marom in six weeks, when his six-month trial period ends. In doing so, Yishai should put more effort into giving female job applicants "preferential treatment."

"This judgment is important and precedential," Ben-Ziman said in a statement. "It is a breakthrough and a serious stride towards fair treatment of women in Israel's public sector."

Sheves indicted for bribery, fraud, and extortion



Shimon Sheves (Ephraim Kildashok)

Shimon Sheves, the former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, was charged yesterday in Jerusalem District Court with bribery, fraud and other offenses.

A section of the indictment dealing with a sensitive security matter was kept sealed, with the state attorney claiming Israel's foreign relations could be harmed if it were published.

The next step is for Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to hold a hearing for Sheves, after which he will determine how to proceed.

Sheves is accused of accepting a bribe, fraud, breach of trust and extortion.

The indictment alleges that Sheves used his position to advance the personal interests of his friends in exchange for benefits.

Sheves and his friend Moshe Stern are alleged to have maintained a financial relationship, under which Stern transferred large sums of money to Sheves in exchange for the promotion of Stern's business interests.

The state attorney claims that the transfers were camouflaged as

profits from a rise in the value of securities.

Sheves is also accused of using his position as the official responsible for streamlining building procedures to advance the interests of his friend Gil Shuldenfrel, the owner of the Ligad Building company.

Sheves is also charged with pressuring the deputy director-general of the National Insurance Institute, Gideon Kadman, so the NII would buy into the Sha'arei Hair project in Jerusalem, built by Ligad.

Church calls for halt in putting up new crosses at Auschwitz

WARSAW (AP) - Poland's top Catholic figure reversed himself yesterday and called for followers to stop putting up crosses outside the former Nazi death camp at Auschwitz.

The strongly worded statement by Cardinal Jozef Glemp was a conciliatory move in the escalating controversy over dozens of crosses erected in the past three weeks on property adjoining Auschwitz.

The Israeli government and Jewish groups, including the Simon Wiesenthal Center, have formally protested to Poland's government about the newly erected crosses near Auschwitz, where more than 1 million Jews died in the Holocaust.

Glemp appealed to Catholic bishops in Poland to "try to restrain the growth of that non-church action," referring to the crosses put up by Catholics near a larger cross that has stood at the site since 1988.

A loose group of Catholic followers, inspired by a former Solidarity activist and author of antisemitic pamphlets, intend to erect 152 crosses at the site to commemorate the 152 Poles killed at that spot by the Nazis.

For them, the eight-meter cross that has stood at the site since 1988 has become a symbol of the Nazis' Polish victims. Jewish groups have long protested that the presence of that cross is disrespectful of Jewish victims.

Glemp said the new crosses which "irresponsible groups" were putting up diminished "the meaning of the cross-symbol."

His statement followed comments by top government figures Monday about a possible compromise in the dispute, which has touched on one of the most emotional remnants of the war - how to preserve the camp that symbolized Nazi brutality and calculated killing.

The Polish government has said it lacks authority to remove the

crosses because the property is privately owned and the placement of religious symbols is up to the Catholic Church.

On Monday the Wiesenthal Center condemned the Polish government for not removing the crosses. In a letter to Poland's ambassador to the U.S., center officials said the crosses indicate that extremists want to alter history.

"The installation of these crosses in Auschwitz sends a clear signal to Jewish communities throughout the world that your government, in effect, cedes its international responsibility on this matter to a group of Polish extremists who intend to impose the symbols of Christianity upon Jewish suffering," the letter said.

Jan Karski, a non-Jewish secret courier for the Polish government-in-exile during the Holocaust, who delivered eyewitness testimony of the physical extermination of European Jewry to Allied leaders issued a public letter criticizing the crosses.

"Poland is ill served by the growing conflict over crosses placed on the grounds of the so-called gravel pit which constitutes an integral part of the Auschwitz site," he wrote.

"These actions have nothing to do with faith or with religion. They are an expression of conceit, contempt, and desire to humble our 'older brothers' in our joint faith in God. These feelings and actions are contrary to true Catholicism and they bring painful, acute shame because the use of religion and its symbols for political purposes is sacrilege."

Karski was smuggled into and out of Treblinka and then personally informed US president Franklin Roosevelt and British prime minister Winston Churchill of what was going on there after he was sent to the West. He dedicated himself to the vain attempt to mobilize the West to rescue the Jews and was designated as a Righteous Gentile by Yad Vashem.

Jubilee Association rebuffs Sharon

By HELEN KAYE

Jubilee Association head Doron Shmueli said yesterday that he does not understand why National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon had applied for funds to the association as it is concerned only with events related to the State's Jubilee.

Sharon had requested the association's participation for an event commemorating the 25th anniversary of the crossing of the Suez Canal, an operation which turned the tide in Israel's favor in the Yom Kippur War.

"The government established criteria for funding events," Shmueli said, "and I am the general manager of the Jubilee, not for events which happened 25 years ago. If I acceded to Sharon's request, I would have to honor similar requests from bodies no less worthy than the division organizing this event."

In his letter to Shmueli, Sharon wrote: "I regret and was ashamed at your decision to deny sponsorship and support to the commemoration of this heroic battle... because it does not meet the criteria."

"This historic battle," he continued, "contributed to peace with Egypt and is thus an indissoluble part of the Jubilee."

Survey to check nation's dental health

By JUDY SIEGEL

Some 1,500 adults aged 35 to 44 will be invited to undergo a short, free dental examination in their home to provide data for the Health Ministry's first-ever national survey on the condition of the nation's teeth.

The results will be processed

with a computer program from the World Health Organization and used to assess dental health, prepare plans and provide information for decision makers, the ministry said yesterday.

Residents of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa and smaller towns representing all demographic and ethnic groups will be selected at random.



Record breaker

Eleven models, who have a combined weight of one ton, descend the stairs of a Tel Aviv mall yesterday wearing what organizers said is the world's largest pair of jeans and would earn a place in 'The Guinness Book of World Records.' The jeans, sponsored by a store for oversized clothing, were made from 50 meters of fabric and are seven meters wide and 1.75 meters long.

(Reuters)

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Warriors of Islam

American investigators are hunting for the bombers of the Nairobi and Dar es Salaam embassies. If they were to round up the usual suspects, how many would there be?

There is an official figure of terrorist suspects in the FBI's files - 3,000 organizations and 200,000 suspect individuals. Good luck with that.

The main investigation is now housed in a sealed building next to the blast-damaged embassy in Nairobi. Compared with the aftermath of previous terrorist attacks, sources close to the investigation are being remarkably circumspect, as terse as Tacitus.

That's the Oklahoma Effect. After the Oklahoma City bombing, motor-mouth police spokesmen and media pundits unleashed a flood of speculation that amounted to naked racism against Moslems and Arabs in the United States and abroad. Unnamed witnesses were quoted as seeing "men of Middle Eastern appearance fleeing the scene," a new twist on alien sightings. Oklahoma, which turned out to be terrorism by good ole white boys and self-styled all-American patriots, left red faces sitting atop red necks. Hence the caution this time.

Jihad speaks

Yet there is such a thing as statistical probability. "The theory that this has nothing to do with Africa is a good place to start," one investigation source told *The Washington Post*. In the careful speculation that has crept into the media so far, two names seem to me worthy of attention: Islamic Jihad and Usama Bin Laden.

What is significant is not the post-factum claims of responsibility for the bombings - any fool and his fax can become the United Strugglers Islamic Front - but one interesting advance warning.

On Thursday, a day before the 10:00 a.m. simultaneous bombings in Africa, the Arabic newspaper *Al Hayat* reported a statement from Islamic Jihad (the Egyptian organization of that common name) which said: "We inform the Americans that a response is being prepared, and we hope they will read with attention what we will write with God's help in language they will understand."

The "response" was for the part played by US agents in persuading the Albanian government to extradite three Egyptian Islamic Jihad terrorists back to Cairo to stand trial for attacks on tourists, according to *Al Hayat*. Since the arrests were made in Albania at the end of June, the time was ample for Islamic Jihad to prepare the "response" and a vague warning the morning before.

Laden with loot

Usama Bin Laden is a name several US investigators put high on the list for scrutiny. In modern revolutionary Islamic mythology, Bin Laden is a legend for his

guerrilla warfare against the Soviets in Afghanistan.

In the West, he is known as the only billionaire terrorist and the banker of fundamentalist Islam. He has declared the United States

his personal enemy. By his own admission, he recruited and trained fundamentalists from all over the Islamic and Arab world for Afghanistan.

Egyptians, Algerians, Lebanese, Kuwaitis, Turks and Tunisians - "not hundreds but thousands," he said in a rare interview in 1996.

Intelligence sources say these groups remain the core of his secretive support for a wide number of terrorist organizations - Jamaa Islamiya in Egypt, Hiz al-Islami in Afghanistan, the National Islamic Front in Sudan, and dissident rebels in Saudi Arabia who have rendered the regime there completely paranoid. Since his Afghan days he has retained an extensive subversive network in Pakistan.

Intelligence sources say the Saudi secret service, aided by the Pakistanis, secured a minor coup at the end of last year when they persuaded Bin Laden's trusted chief accountant, Mohammed bin Moalaleh, to defect.

Bin Laden is of Saudi origin, but in 1994 the Saudis stripped him of citizenship. He has lived mostly in Omdurman, in the suburbs of Khartoum, since 1992. In Sudan, he ostensibly builds roads and other civil engineering projects. His net worth is estimated at \$7 billion.

Tsk Fisk

The Mr. Mystery of world terrorism predictably loathes Western journalists. The only known interview with him was obtained in Khartoum in 1996 by my former Beirut colleague and compatriot, Robert Fisk - long with *The Times*, before he moved to *The Independent*.

Not that Fisk got much out of his "mountain warrior of mujahedin legend" in a gold fringed robe, surrounded by "bearded taciturn figures... never more than a few yards from the man who recruited them."

He asked about the "Afghan construction workers" - hundreds of Arab fighters Bin Laden brought into Sudan to train for jihad wars in Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt. This is "the rubbish of the media and the embassies," said Bin Laden, adding that if he had training camps in Sudan he "couldn't possibly" do his job as an engineer.

After Fisk had quizzed Bin Laden about Arabs sent to Bosnia, he asked again about Algeria. A Sudanese security guard stepped in. "You have asked more than enough questions," he said ominously as Bin Laden slid out of sight.

Too many questions, too few answers. And that brings us back to where we started - with a team of FBI men huddled in a sealed building by the US embassy in Nairobi, seeking answers in the scraps of rubble from those lives lost in the bombings.

Hillary for president!

Bill Clinton's troubles have only made his wife more popular with the American public

By ELIZABETH SHOGREN

WASHINGTON — Not counting her husband, Hillary Rodham Clinton has outpaced all other Democrats in recent months in raising money to win back the House of Representatives.

The first lady is hot. And Democratic candidates and operatives are doing all they can to make the most of it - despite President Clinton's problems.

After years of lousy showings in public opinion polls - sometimes lower than her husband's - Mrs. Clinton's favorable ratings returned to a high level that she had not experienced since the first inaugural. Recent polls have shown her favorable ratings as high as 65 percent - a far cry from her low point in early 1996, when only 42% viewed her favorably.

Mrs. Clinton's political metamorphosis stems in part from her fortitude in the face of the glaring indignity of charges that President Clinton was unfaithful.

"For the first time, she's a sympathetic character," said Frank Luntz, a Republican pollster. "The more that comes out about (President Clinton) the better she looks. It has softened some of the hostility of her opponents. They almost forgive her for the things that they didn't like about her previously."

Instead of hiding from public view this year as independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr has investigated her husband's alleged affair with a White House intern, Mrs. Clinton traveled the country - calling for improvements in the nation's health care and child care systems, drawing attention to the imperiled state of America's historical treasures and campaigning for Democrats.

Key to Mrs. Clinton's political success is a remarkable transformation in her image over the last several years from a threatening ideologue on the liberal fringe to an appealing advocate for centrist family-friendly policies.

"When she was the front person on health-care reform, that was an unfortunate role," said Roy Romer, chairman of the Democratic National Committee and governor of Colorado. More recently, "she's not been out in a visible way," Romer added. "She's been quietly and silently doing very important, solid work on children and family issues. Low-profile, hard work is a posture that people really applaud."

Unlike the early years of the administration, when she was sometimes booed by hostile crowds, now - and not just in partisan crowds - she is greeted like a rock star.

More than 10,000 people and posters with slogans, some saying "Hillary for President," greeted her last month in a high-school stadium in the upstate New York village of Seneca Falls. Although her topic was women's rights, Mrs. Clinton delivered a speech so absent of controversy that not even conservatives could have objected. She has muted her rhetoric and learned the art of compromise.



Hillary's political metamorphosis - her favorable ratings have gone from a low point of 42% in 1996 to over 65% today - stems in part from her fortitude in the face of the glaring indignity of charges that President Clinton was unfaithful.

"Will we admit once and for all there is no cookie-cutter model for being a successful and fulfilled woman today?" Mrs. Clinton said, evoking a self-conscious metaphor to issue the most universally unobjectionable call to arms imaginable.

Some of her longtime fans bemoan the blandness of Mrs. Clinton and miss her old willingness to swing for the fences in her efforts to improve the country.

"I think she did give in to her critics," said Margaret Urchfuz, 50, an assistant dean of engineer-

ing at Rochester Institute of Technology, who was one of the thousands of people listening to Mrs. Clinton's address in Seneca Falls. "She probably felt that she had to back down while Bill was in office. I hope she'll resume after they leave the White House."

Nonetheless, her longtime supporters remain faithful, believing that - underneath - the fiery Mrs. Clinton, who came to Washington to be the first co-president, still rages. But by taking a page from her husband's political manual and focusing on

the more palatable of the issues that she cares about, Mrs. Clinton has won many converts from the political center.

"At first, it almost seemed like she was the one who had run for president," said Carol Griffith, 42, a registered nurse who runs the women's wellness program at a veterans hospital in Buffalo. "She's more measured now. She's definitely grown. She's got a better idea of what she can actually do from her position."

Writing a best-selling book about raising children, traveling with daughter Chelsea, talking

about her daughter in folksy ways in her weekly newspaper column and touring America's historic treasures with a press corps in tow - all have helped soften Mrs. Clinton's public image. When she talks about child care for preschoolers - her principal issue currently - she never wanders into controversial territory such as the health-care initiative.

The clincher for Griffith and other former Hillary skeptics was watching her "weathering the storms" of the last several years - particularly the accusations of the president's sexual misconduct and the media's obsession with the topic.

"I think she's going through a tremendous amount of duress and is still standing up well," Griffith added. "That's got to count for something."

Some people who have been close to the first lady for a long time caution that, while her public persona now resembles that of her husband - the centrist, consensus-building politician - there is a dramatic difference.

"The private Hillary is very different from the public Hillary," said one former senior White House official. "She's harder-edged and less compromising than the president in private."

IN THE first years of the Clinton presidency, before the searing defeat of the health-care reform initiative that she headed, what the public saw was more like the private Mrs. Clinton. That experience taught her that her husband's approach to politics - pragmatic progress and incremental goals - can be more effective.

Whether Mrs. Clinton simply has altered her public image, her metamorphosis has delighted Democratic officials, who have eagerly used her broadening appeal to try to improve the party's chances in the upcoming congressional elections. Both houses now are controlled by Republicans. The Democrats need to win 12 seats to be assured of taking control of the House.

For the first time, the first lady penned major fund-raising letters for both the Democratic congressional campaign committees.

She has broken her own record for campaigning for candidates other than her husband and has a busy schedule in the fall for more campaigning, according to her staff.

Other first ladies' political efforts for candidates other than their husbands pale in comparison to hers, according to presidential scholar Carl Anthony. Mrs. Clinton has attended events for at least a dozen House candidates, many of them newcomers, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"She is a huge asset," said Dan, spokesman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which works on behalf of House candidates. "Every one of these trips has been a slam dunk both in terms of money and message."

(Los Angeles Times)

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סוכנות האהל

Two boys convicted in fatal Arkansas school shootings

By DAVID A. LEB

JONESBORO, Arkansas (AP) — Two boys, 14 and 12, were convicted yesterday here of gunning down four schoolmates and a teacher in an ambush outside their school.

Mitchell Johnson, 14, admitted firing shots that killed the five last March 24. A lawyer for Andrew Golden, 12, said the boy took part in the attack but was insane at the time and not mentally competent to understand yesterday's hearing.

Juvenile Court Judge Ralph Wilson Jr. rejected Golden's argument, however, and found him guilty after a two-hour trial.

A sentencing hearing for the two boys was scheduled to begin yesterday afternoon.

Both boys were charged with five counts of murder and 10 counts of battery. Nine other students and another teacher also were injured in the ambush outside the Westside Middle School. The victims were lured outdoors by a false fire alarm.

Wilson found that the boys were delinquent and can sentence them to a state youth center until they are 21 — though the state currently has no facility to hold them beyond age 18.

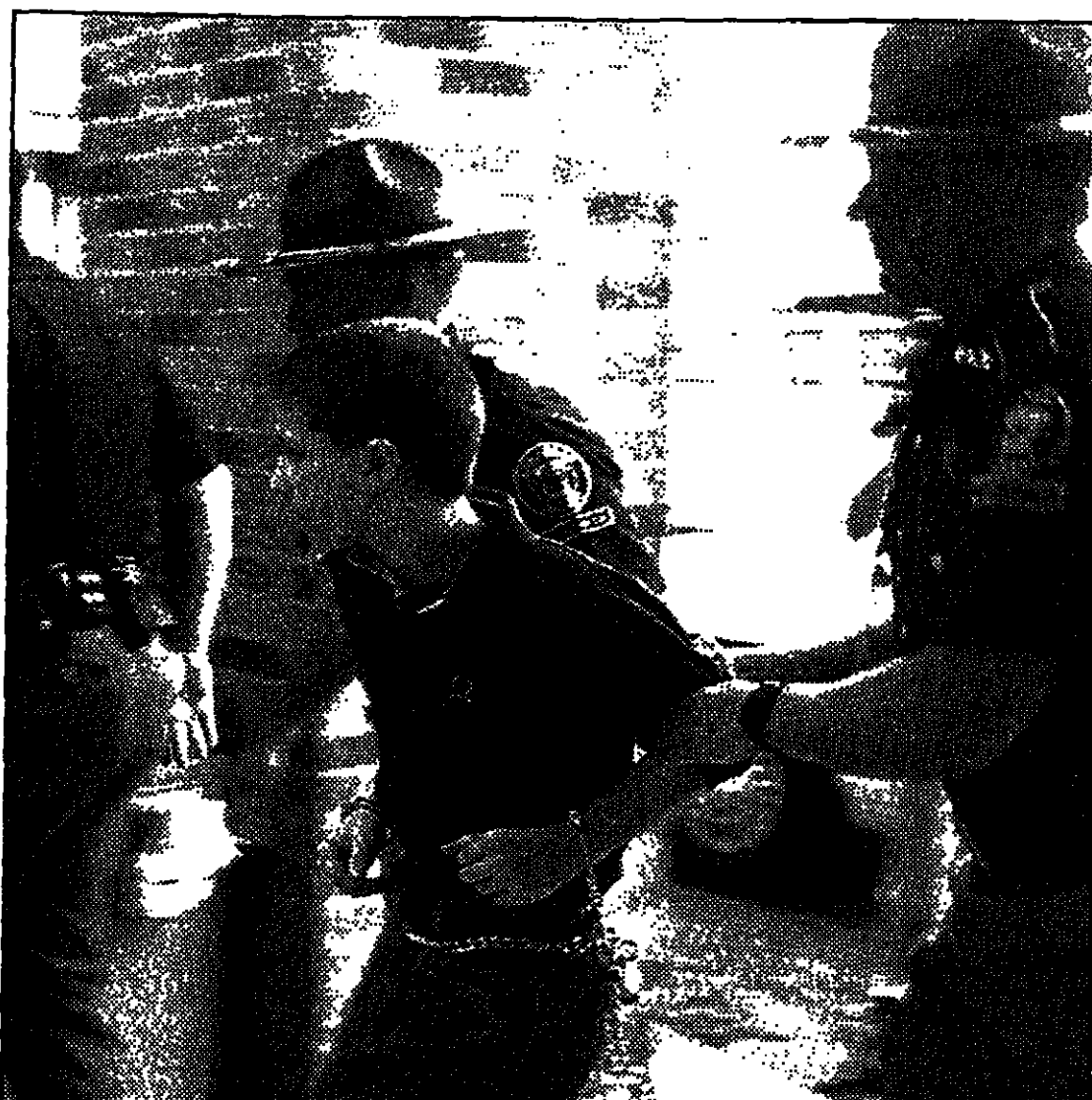
Wilson also could place them on probation, order community service and make their parents pay fines and court costs.

The courtroom already was filled when Johnson came into the room, looking downward. A short time later, he stood before the judge — his left hand holding his mother's right hand and his right hand firmly clenched at his side. His father's hand rested on his shoulder.

Johnson nodded slightly and quietly answered "Yes" as the judge went through a series of questions about whether he understood the accusations against him.

When asked how he pleaded to the five murders, Johnson said, "Guilty." When asked about the wounding of 10 people, Johnson responded "Guilty, your honor."

More than 100 of the victims' relatives and school staff reserved spots to watch the boys' hearing, which was the equivalent of an



Sheriff's Deputies rush 12-year-old Andrew Golden into a back door of the county courthouse for his hearing in Jonesboro, Arkansas, yesterday. (AP)

adult trial. Security officers had them pass through metal detectors before allowing them in the courtroom, and bomb-sniffing dogs checked out the building.

Setting out shortly after sunset, the boys were moved by two deputies the two miles from the county jail to a courthouse annex.

About two hours later, two dozen people, including Westside students, queued outside the courtroom hoping for one of the limited public seats.

"I'm just hoping they pay for their crimes," said Jamie Clebenger, a seventh-grader last year who knew victim Natalie Brooks and once lived next door to Golden. She wore a purple-and-white ribbon to remember the dead.

Debbie Coffman, wearing a white ribbon, waited with her son Eric, who starts at the middle school next week. She expressed frustration that the boys, if convicted, could be released after serving just a short time.

"It grates me, but it's the law," said Coffman, who knew slain teacher Shannon Wright. "There's nothing we can do about it, except try to change the law, which we will try to do."

Juvenile hearings typically are closed to the public in Arkansas, but Wilson opened the trial because of intense public interest.

He also twice delayed trial while public defenders explored whether they could use some form of mental incompetency plea for Golden.

Kosovo Albanian rebels vow to fight on

By ISMET HADJARI

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia (AP) — Secessionist ethnic Albanian rebels vowed yesterday to fight on in Kosovo province, despite a string of recent losses to Serb government forces.

Albanian sources reported fighting yesterday in the western Decani region near the Albanian border. They said a column of 110 Yugoslav army vehicles, including 36 tanks, was seen heading for the area.

The Albanian-run Kosovo Information Center said about 15,000 refugees were trapped in the Decani region "because of an iron circle" formed by Serb forces. The bodies of five killed ethnic Albanians were brought overnight to the morgue in nearby Djakovica, the report said.

The government-run Serb Media Center said a Serb policeman was shot dead late Monday in fighting near Djakovica. The independent Beta news agency said 14 Serb policemen have been killed since the Serb's latest offensive began July 20. It said 217 ethnic Albanians are known to have died in the same period.

In the Albanian capital, Tirana, the government said today 70 people fled across the border from Kosovo within the last 24 hours, including two badly wounded guerrillas.

Independent media in Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital, said Kosovo Liberation Army fighters have regained control of the central village of Likovac, the rebel headquarters which Serb forces overran last week.

The reports could not be confirmed independently.

In a statement distributed to ethnic Albanian media, the KLA said the Serb offensive "has only strengthened our resolve to bravely continue on the road to freedom." The statement called on Kosovo Albanians, who represent 90 percent of the Serbian province's 2 million people, to "unite with the KLA and help us in our just freedom fight."

It also warned NATO not to deploy troops on the Albanian border — the main route of arms supply for the KLA — "because we would consider this the second offensive against our freedom and our national pride." Despite the statement, a top KLA official told the Albanian *Koha Ditore* daily

newspaper the militants might join an all-Albanian negotiating team in peace negotiations with the Serbian government.

Rebel spokesman Shaban Sala said the KLA rebels had agreed "in principle" during a meeting with US envoy Christopher Hill earlier this month to form a Kosovo Albanian coalition government.

Diplomatic efforts to return ethnic Albanian and Serb leaders to the negotiating table have been inching forward. Hill met with Serb and ethnic Albanian leaders Monday in Kosovo's provincial capital, Pristina.

Hill has been mediating between pacifist ethnic Albanian leader Ibrahim Rugova and leading politician Mehmet Hajrizi, who has close contacts with the ethnic Albanian rebels, in hopes of getting the Albanians to rally behind one leader.

For five months, Serb troops have been fighting the KLA, which seeks independence from Serbia, the dominant republic of Yugoslavia.

Kosovo's ethnic Albanians remain largely divided between those loyal to Rugova and those who support the militants.

Chinese dissident's wife allegedly roughed up by police

BEIJING (AP) — The wife of a jailed Chinese dissident was injured when plainclothes police forced her and her mother-in-law into a car and then held them for 12 hours, a human rights group said yesterday.

Chu Hailan, wife of labor activist Liu Nianchun, and her mother-in-law were walking to a Beijing government office Monday to demand that Liu be given better medical treatment when police forced them into a car, the New York-based Human Rights in China said.

Chu suffered a sprained ankle and bruises in the arrest and detention, the group said. Her husband, who has been held in labor camps or prisons without trial for three years, suffers stomach problems, high

blood pressure, and other ailments, according to Chu.

Meanwhile, 138 dissidents signed a petition to Chinese leaders demanding the release of Wang Youcai, an activist detained July 10 in a crackdown on a would-be opposition party. Wang has been charged with inciting to overthrow the government.

Wang and two other dissidents announced the formation of the China Democracy Party on June 25, the day President Bill Clinton arrived for a visit. But Chinese officials refused to let the group legally register and soon began rounding up its organizers and their associates.

Of the dozen people detained, all but Wang have since been released.

Myanmar allows diplomats to see detained activists

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Myanmar's military regime today began allowing diplomats to visit 18 foreign democracy activists detained for handing out antigovernment leaflets, but said there was no decision on whether to prosecute them.

The six detained Americans were the first allowed visits at the Yangon police headquarters, three days after their arrest. Diplomats from the Philippines, Thailand and Australia were also granted permission to visit their detained citizens.

A US Embassy spokeswoman said the 90-minute meeting took place in an open room with two consular officers, who brought the detainees books and snacks.

"Their health is OK," said the spokeswoman. She said they had been fed vegetarian meals and had not complained about their treatment. One US activist, student Nisha Marie Anand, 21, is a vege-

itarian and had cited her diet as a health concern.

The spokeswoman declined to comment on whether the detainees were being questioned. Myanmar authorities have said the 18 were being interrogated to determine whether they should be charged with any crime.

Government officials have denied reports the ruling State Peace and Development Council had already decided to put the activists on trial. Deportation also remains an option.

The reports panicked supporters and relatives of the activists meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

The detainees include six Americans, three Thais, three Malaysians, three Indonesians, two Philippine citizens, and an Australian. It was unclear if the Malaysians and Indonesians were allowed visits today.

The 18 were apprehended Sunday

after distributing leaflets urging people to remember an August 8, 1988 uprising against military rule which resulted in a change of leaders but was eventually crushed. An estimated 3,000 people died.

In Manila, 30 human-rights activists, some holding placards reading "Democracy for Burma," as Myanmar is also called, picketed the Myanmar Embassy today.

Kusuma Phunderrvong, the mother of a Thai detainee, said she is worried about the health of her daughter, Chanakarn, 22, who recently suffered from malaria and thyroid problems.

The Myanmar authorities have insisted the detainees are in good health.

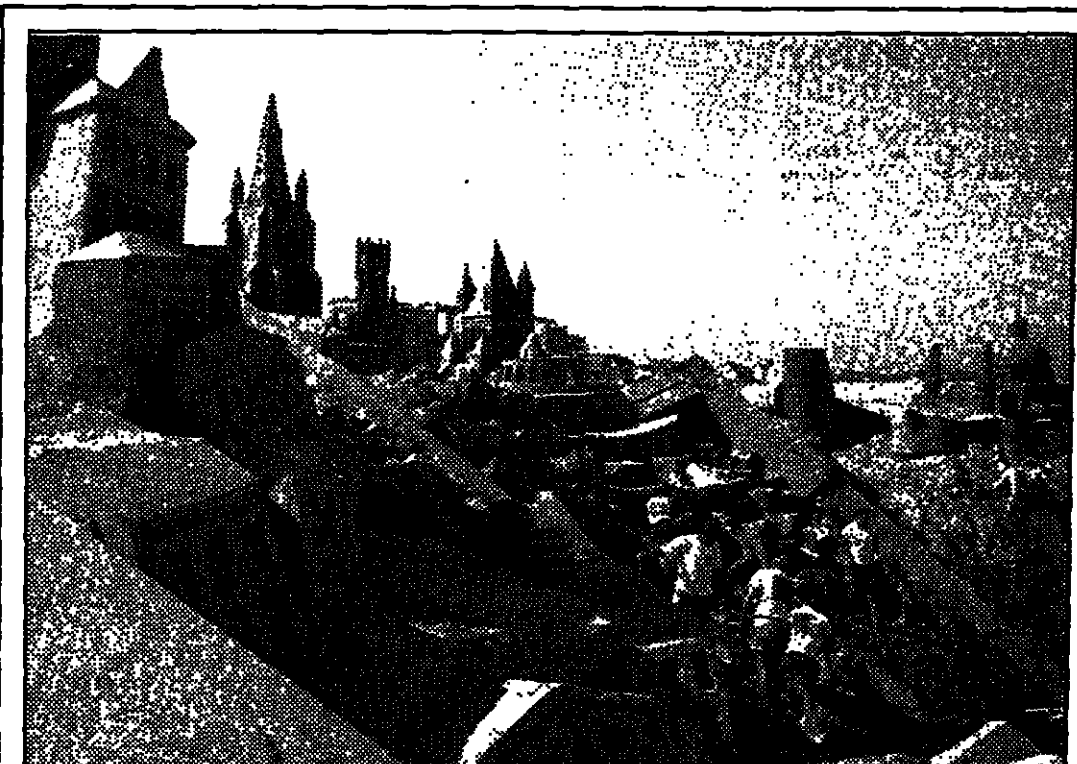
Myanmar officials say the activists broke laws, including a printing act and an emergency law that can carry a 10-year sentence and is frequently used against political opponents.

20 arrested in prostitution ring

MORRIS TOWNSHIP, NJ (AP) — A stately turn-of-the-century home known as Sunnymede was being used as a house of prostitution where customers were charged \$225 an hour by the Afternoon Delight Escort Service, authorities said.

Officers raided the home in the prosperous suburb last week, arresting four women and 15 men, some of them top executives, the Morris County prosecutor's office said. On Monday, authorities charged the owner of the home, Judith Kelly Dempsey, a 45-year-old real estate agent.

"This was a well-run, profitable, sophisticated operation in such a respected neighborhood," Morris County Prosecutor John Dangler said. The four other women, aged 20 to 35, were charged with prostitution. One also was charged with possessing heroin.



Castles made of sand

Sand sculptors craft huge sand structures yesterday on the North Sea beach at Zeebrugge, Belgium, in preparation for a sand sculpture festival. Some 300 truckloads of Netherlands sand have been hauled in to create copies of historic Belgian buildings, some of them 50 meters high.

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'Mulan' hits a great wall of Chinese red tape

By HENRY CHU

BEIJING - *Mulan* may be doing well in Peoria, but will it play in Peking?

That is one of the biggest questions surrounding Walt Disney Co.'s latest full-length animated hit, which is raking in healthy receipts at the US box office but has yet to screen here in the land where the movie is set.

Based on an ancient Chinese legend about a girl who marches off to war in her father's place, *Mulan* would seem a natural, friendly fit for China, whose enormous moviegoing audience has had Hollywood salivating for years.

For the moment, however, the film remains trapped in official limbo, under potentially protracted deliberation by Beijing's movie censors.

As it floats in a state of - quite literally - suspended animation, *Mulan* points up the unpredictable and often frustrating workings of the Chinese entertainment industry, a minefield for enthusiastic but unwary foreigners and an uneasy intersection of politics and culture in the world's most populous nation.

Few observers doubt that the waiting game for Disney, which is on a rocky footing with China's central government, turns as much on delicate questions of policy and politics as on aesthetic merit.

"We're hopeful that they'll decide to show the film," said John Dreyer, Disney's chief spokesman for matters dealing with China. "It's moving through the process."

But exactly when and where that process will end is far from clear.

In an unusual dispatch this week, the

official New China News Agency quoted "reliable sources" as saying that "the Chinese government needs time to discuss whether to import the movie."

The agency cited "artistic taste and story line" as factors in determining which foreign films premiere in China, adding that approval for *Mulan* will be a "complicated issue."

Those complications include everything from the low limit slapped on the number of international films allowed to the Communist regime's intransigence over Tibet, a sensitive spot that triggered a cat-and-Mickey-Mouse game between Beijing and Disney more than a year ago, in a warning to other studios hoping to tap the Chinese market.

Only about a dozen foreign movies are permitted in Chinese theaters annually on a profit-sharing basis between the Chinese and the original distributors, a quota that chafes studio executives.

The issue is such a sticking point that President Clinton lobbied for greater access to the Chinese film market during last month's Sino-US summit. Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, has also met with Chinese officials to persuade them to ease the restrictions.

But the cultural authorities here have so far refused to increase the number of revenue-sharing foreign films for 1998, according to China Entertainment Network, a private consultant business based in Shanghai. Prospects for next year are equally dim.

Already this year, the Chinese moviegoing public has seen Leonardo DiCaprio drown in *Titanic*, George



Based on an ancient Chinese legend about a girl who marches off to war in her father's place, 'Mulan' would seem a natural fit for China, but Beijing's movie censors have yet to approve its release.

Clooney flit around in a cape in *Batman and Robin* and Tommy Lee Jones escape death by lava in *Volcano*. (Nearly all the films screened in China from abroad end up being American ones.) All told, five or six imports have hit local cinemas; three more, including *Deep Impact*, are queued up for release, sources say. The window is therefore shrinking,

though not completely closed, for *Mulan* to be screened in China by year's end.

SEEN purely in terms of content, the Disney offering would appear to be a sure bet.

The typically wholesome young heroine, who disguises herself as a man to do battle, is also daring, intelligent and cunning. And

malevolent-looking Huns make for a politically correct enemy. China's landscape, featuring de rigueur drawings of the Great Wall, is rendered to lovely effect.

And, learning its lesson from a mild debate over *The Lion King*, Disney has produced not one but two versions of *Mulan* dubbed in Mandarin Chinese - one for viewers in Taiwan, where *Mulan* is already playing, and another with idiomatic expressions and humor more familiar to mainland theatergoers.

Back in 1995, some official culture gremlins in the Chinese government had complained that *The Lion King*, the only animated Disney film besides *Toy Story* to be shown in China, catered too much to Taiwan's taste.

With so many brownie points to bank it up, what or who could possibly stand in *Mulan*'s way, especially if the Huns couldn't?

Enter the Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader.

To Beijing's ire, Disney went ahead last year with the release of *Kundun*, Martin Scorsese's biographical film of the Dalai Lama, complete with an unflattering portrait of the Chinese annexation of Tibet.

China, whose official memory goes back almost as far as its 5,000-year-old civilization, has not quickly forgiven or forgotten Disney's political transgression.

"There's no secret they [weren't] happy about it," acknowledged Dreyer, the Disney spokesman.

Since then, the Communist government has cooled toward the entertainment giant and its plans to build operations in China, including dreams of building a

Magic Kingdom in the Middle Kingdom. China was also displeased last fall with MGM's *Red Corner* and Sony's *Seven Years in Tibet*. Sony has not released a film there since, but a spokeswoman for the studio says it is optimistic that it will be able to resolve the situation; MGM had no comment.

The message was clear: If Hollywood wants to use China to make more money, perhaps the dearest concern to Hollywood's heart, then it had better rethink its attitude toward volatile issues like Tibet.

Although some critics accuse Disney of now trying to toady up to Beijing with *Mulan*'s positive depiction of China, company representatives said the film had been in development long before *Kundun* premiered.

"We have continued to do business in China," Dreyer said. "We continue to have discussion with Chinese officials, about all of our businesses and exploring... our potential for either expanding or starting up businesses there."

Meanwhile, some Chinese are already catching a glimpse of the latest Disney animated extravaganza, despite official delay over whether to release the film. Pirated copies of the film on video compact disc are available on Beijing streets.

One buyer, a 40-year-old magazine editor, even obtained her copy in an "authorized VCD" store. Like virtually all Chinese adults, the woman grew up hearing the story of *Mulan* in school, taught in the verses of a famous classical poem.

"I expect it will be a lot of fun," she said of Disney's rendition, which she plans to watch at home. (Los Angeles Times)

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The garden of Israeli music

CLASSIC DISCS

There used to be a time when you could easily identify Israeli music and composers upon hearing the first few notes. There was something very Israeli about the music, a sort of oriental exotic amalgam combined with the traditions of the West.

But in more recent years, Israeli music has basically lost its identity.

Now, however, a crop of new recordings of contemporary Israeli music, performed mostly by Israeli musicians, suggests that there may be light at the end of the tunnel.

Israeli music is seldom recorded by leading international labels. But ASV recently made a landmark recording of three violin concerti written in Israel. *Israeli Violin Concertos* (ASV CD DCA 1038) is a major addition to the catalog and an achievement for Israel. David Shalton, music director of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra-TBA, leads the very assured and warm sounding London Philharmonic Orchestra with violinist Michael Gutman playing concerti by Paul Ben-Haim, Noam Sheriff and Oded Zehavi.

The three concerti differ considerably, yet also complement one another in a most extraordinary way. Ben-Haim wrote his concerto in 1960, when he was 63, and the very Mediterranean work reflects both the younger, more adventurous composer and the older, more subdued one.

Ben-Haim's piece undoubtedly paved the way for the Sheriff concerto, written in 1986 and never before recorded. This deeply emotional opus draws an impressive balance between the old and the new, developing in vastly intriguing ways and contrasting oriental elements with modern European ones.

The Zehavi piece, written this year and yet to be performed live, is undoubtedly a work of this day and age. This beguiling composition combines the composer's special lyrical gift and poetic touch with a modernistic approach and love of percussion. It should be performed live - the sooner the better.

All in all, these three very intriguing concerti, performed superbly, mark three milestones in the annals of Israeli music and prove there could be an international market.

Another very important Israeli

composer, the late Mordechai Seter, is represented in a powerful and dramatic disc featuring his a cappella music. *Mordechai Seter - Works for Choir A Cappella* (Music in Israel MI-CD 25) showcases the excellent Koln Radio Choir singing with perfect Hebrew diction under Gary Bertini, one of the greatest Israeli conductors. Although the works were written about 40 years ago, their immediacy, dramatic power and evocative emotions are still evident in this first-rate performance. This, however, raises the question of why there is not even one local choir that could perform this music with such musicianship and dramatic presentation.

Not everything is rosy in the garden of Israeli music.

When one hears music by Ben-Zion Orgad, Alexander Uriyah Boskovich and Ron Weidberg, another trio of composers, the result is less appealing. Three of Weidberg's works, played with clear devotion and enthusiasm by the Ra'anana Symphonette Orchestra, are featured on *Ron Weidberg* (unnumbered, produced by the Ra'anana Symphonette Orchestra). However, the piano and violin concerti and the Variations on a Theme by Mozart are rather eclectic works which leave quite a lot to be desired.

Boskovich's *Concerto da Camera* from 1962 is performed with devotion by the Musica Nova Consort under Denis Cohen, yet fails to persuade anyone that the work is actually intriguing. This rather disappointing opus is coupled in a new disc titled *Ben-Zion Orgad-Alexander Uriyah Boskovich* (Music in Israel MI CD 26) with Orgad's 1960 Sextet. The Musica Nova Consort gives an impressive reading under the late Shalom Ronli-Riklis but the essence of the work and style is not actually savored. The works fail to capture your attention, not to mention your imagination.

But fortunately, there are enough good composers around to put Israeli music back on the international map.

On another disc by the Ra'anana Symphonette, *Harvest 97* (unnumbered), one can enjoy two very important, new Israeli works. Gil Shohat's concertino for violin and orchestra is a captivating opus, one of the young and very assured composer's best. It is a work that continues the Israeli tradition of combining eastern Mediterranean themes and melodies in an opus that has clear Western form and content.

The much older and well-established Yosef Bardanashvili, a Georgian native who has made his home in Israel, has written



The JSO's David Shalton leads the London Philharmonic Orchestra in 'Israeli Violin Concertos.'

Children of God, sung here in a most poetic and touching way by countertenor David De'or. The piece takes the audience to a totally different world of imagery and emotions.

Obviously these discs are only samples of the current local music harvest, but they are quite revealing and suggest that Israeli classical music is nothing to be ashamed of. Perhaps the time has come to perform, record and market this music abroad - and not as Yiddishkeit.

cal music is nothing to be ashamed of. Perhaps the time has come to perform, record and market this music abroad - and not as Yiddishkeit.

Nina Simone shakes up Baalbek



Nina Simone brought a 4,000-strong crowd to its feet in Lebanon.

By SAM F. CHATTAS

Jazz singer Nina Simone shook her hips and shoulders and brought the audience to its feet in a performance amid the ancient ruins of Baalbek in eastern Lebanon.

"We love you Nina!" many in the crowd shouted.

"Is that a marriage proposal?" the 65-year-old American jokingly replied during her show Saturday night.

This is the first year Americans returned to the Baalbek International Festival since 1974. Jazz pianist Herbie Hancock performed earlier, and American conductor Carl St. Claire appeared with the Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Lebanon was off-limits to Americans from 1987 until last year on US government orders because of kidnappings of Americans and other foreigners. Baalbek was a stronghold of the Shiite Muslim radicals blamed for the abductions.

The sold-out crowd of an estimated 4,000 - young and old - rose to its feet and cheered when Simone sang "My Baby Just Cares for Me." Simone was sometimes needed help walking on stage under the towering floodlit columns of Baalbek's Jupiter Temple. But she got quickly into the mood, with her four-man band.

"It was great. The ambience, thousands of years of history, the music, the people..." said Kanda Haddad, an ophthalmologist at American University Hospital who, like hundreds of others, came on a two-hour bus ride from Beirut.

Others complained the show was too short. Simone, appearing tired, sang and played piano for about 80 minutes.

Many Americans and other international stars played Baalbek before the festival was halted by the 1975-90 civil war. It resumed last year and has 14 nights of performances this year, ending August 29.

Brendan Stafford, a Briton who came to Baalbek for the first time to see Simone, said he was not worried about his safety in the one-time den of kidnappers. "I was curious more than worried," he said. (AP)

Mining Italy's hidden operatic jewels

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Italy is known for its passion for pasta and opera, and there's nothing like combining the two during the summer, as the country's various restaurants welcome their guest outdoors, and opera is enjoyed alfresco.

So while the stars sing their heart out, the stars twinkle above as opera buffs from all over the world applaud as if they are seeing the greatest show on earth.

The most prestigious of all Italian opera festivals is in Verona, where every summer thousands of tourists flock to see Italian opera at its best, particularly the very stylized and old-fashioned productions of *Aida* and *Nabucco*. *Aida* is also a very frequent visitor to Rome's Caracalla Baths.

All these productions feature, aside from the opera stars themselves, massive sets, huge numbers of extras and when possible more than a few animals. This is what the audience loves, why they travel to Italy, and they get what they pay for.

But there is much more to Italian summer opera than a mere Bamum and Bailey show, which would have probably better suited the mass audiences of yesterday. And these other festivals are at times more engaging and captivating than the big, more famous ones.

One of Italy's hidden operatic jewels is the festival in Macerata, a small city between Florence and Rome, with a nice outdoor amphitheater, much smaller than Verona in size and scope and thus much more intimate.

Macerata is not an obvious tourist attraction. You must make an effort to get there, and even before that an effort to obtain their schedule and program. But it is well worth it, because the very special outdoor stage, which is very long and narrow, allows the willing directors and designers to create productions they can't do elsewhere. That's why some of the most famous direc-

tors and designers in the opera world return here annually, bringing with them some of the leading singers as well.

Last summer in Macerata I saw a production of Gounod's *Faust*, a rather weird choice for a very Italian festival. After all, Italians are known not to be too keen on French operas, and the audiences did not flood the arena.

Yet those who did come enjoyed an intriguing production which, with a very wise use of lighting and projections, managed to create a very dramatic and evocative production, especially in the scenes with the chorus and the ballet. The acoustics at Macerata are much better than in many other Italian festivals,

and an evening or two in this relatively unknown city can provide a real operatic treat.

This year's operatic output in Macerata also features one French opera, but this time it is the one French opera which is more Italian than the any other, Bizet's *Carmen*. It shares the stage with Verdi's *Falsaff* and Puccini's *Turandot*, the latter in a production directed and designed by Hugo De Ana.

This year's Macerata festival continues with *Falsaff* (tonight), *Turandot* (tomorrow and Sunday) and *Carmen* (Friday). For tickets and information about this and following seasons call 39-733-230735/233508 or fax 39-733-267499.

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NEWS

of the muse

Searching for Our Children

Unzere Kinder ("Our Children"), the last Yiddish film made in Poland, will be featured at the upcoming Yiddishkeit Los Angeles Festival, and organizers are looking for anyone who had a part in making the 1946 film.

Unzere Kinder was one of the first films to deal fully with the Holocaust, and its "actors" were actual survivors, primarily orphaned children at the Helenovsk Children's Home near Lodz. Attorney Barry Fisher hopes to bring to the October Yiddishkeit Festival, from October 17 to 25, the film's surviving producers and cast members, with priority given to those living in the US.

The recently restored film is described as a psychodrama, with touch of black humor. Anyone who took part in it is requested to contact Barry A. Fisher, 1888 Century Park East, Suite 1750, Los Angeles, CA 90067. Tom Tugend

Tickets on sale for Abu Ghosh choral bonanza

The program for the Succot Abu Ghosh choral music festival (October 9-12) has just been announced and tickets to this most popular event are now on sale. The program, organized by music director Hanna Zur, is one of the best ever, including 17 concerts by local and foreign choirs, ensembles and three orchestras. Among the highlights are performances of major choral works by Mendelssohn, Rossini, Haydn, Bach and Fauré as well as the Mozart Requiem, the Israeli premiere of the Cimarosa Requiem and some choral works by Villa Lobos. On the lighter and more popular side of the repertoire there will be concerts devoted to the music of Theodorakis, folk music from Brazil and a special homage to singer Paul Robeson.

Michael Ajzenstadt

Huberman Quartet to perform in Jlem & Tel Aviv

The Huberman Quartet, the newest addition to the local chamber-music scene, will have its own concert series next season - from December to May. The concerts will be performed at the Tel Aviv Museum and the Israel Museum. Each of the three concerts will feature an Israeli guest: pianist Itamar Golan in one concert, cellist Hillel Tzori in another, and several wind players in the third. The programs range from Mendelssohn, Schubert and Haydn to Richard Strauss, Shostakovich and Israeli composers Menahem Wiesenberg and Jan Radzynski. The Tel Aviv Museum series has an additional concert in which the visiting Ysaye Quartet from France performs.

Michael Ajzenstadt

No credit for Mamet

By ERIC HARRISON

After the controversy over credits for *Wag the Dog*, celebrated playwright and screenwriter David Mamet reportedly has decided to attach his name only to movies on which he is the sole writer.

The writer and director of such films as *The Spanish Prisoner* and *House of Games* uses a pseudonym on his next movie, *Ronin*, an action thriller starring Robert De Niro. When the United Artists film is released in the US on October 2, it will carry the credit: "Screenplay by J.D. Zeik and Richard Weisz."

Zeik, a newcomer to movies, wrote the original script. Weisz - who either did a little tinkering or completely rewrote it, depending on whom you ask - is really Mamet.

"The credits should read: 'Story by J.D. Zeik, screenplay by David Mamet,'" said John Frankenheimer, the movie's director. "We didn't shoot a line of Zeik's script."

Contradicting others close to the production, Frankenheimer said Mamet used a pseudonym as a form of protest. "The Writers Guild arbitration committee decided in its wisdom that the writing credit should be split," according to Frankenheimer, Mamet subsequently opted for the Richard Weisz credit.

Mamet, who rarely speaks with reporters, declined a request for an interview. On *Wag the Dog*, the Writers Guild of America decided last December to give another writer first billing, provoking howls of protest from the movie's director,

Barry Levinson, and reportedly angering Mamet.

Frankenheimer said a similar thing happened with *Ronin*, although others close to the production said Mamet made only a modest contribution to the script, and his contract from the beginning allowed for the use of a fake name. "Mamet was brought in at the last minute before production to beef up De Niro's role," said Stephen A. Dembitzer, Zeik's attorney. "The lawyer said he was told by Mamet's representatives that, after his experience on *Wag the Dog*, the writer had decided to leave his name off movies when he steps in to work on another writer's script."

He used a pseudonym rather than give Zeik sole credit, Dembitzer said, because writers receive greater residuals if their names appear in the credits, even if the name is fake.

In addition to enlarging De Niro's role, Mamet added a female love interest and rewrote several scenes, the lawyer said. When the studio submitted proposed credits that read, "Written by J.D. Zeik and Richard Weisz," Dembitzer went to Mamet's lawyers with a request.

Since Mamet's contributions were minor, "we said to them, 'if he's not automatically going to get credit and since he would only take a credit under a pseudonym anyway, why not withdraw (Mamet's name) and give J.D. sole credit?'" Dembitzer recalled. "It's more meaningful for J.D. because he's at the start of his career." Mamet's lawyer, Stan Coleman, declined, Dembitzer said.

(Los Angeles Times)

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Israel's rescue mission

It is said that modern communications and interconnected economies are transforming the world into a global village. The horrific bombings in Kenya and Tanzania showed that this village has a darker side - terrorism strikes not only innocent individuals, but innocent countries. Into this international mosaic, Israelis are now cast, not just as victims of and combatants against terrorism, but as selfless rescuers.

The blast that shook the center of Nairobi claimed at least 200 Kenyan lives and injured 5,000 people; in Dar es Salaam, 10 Tanzanians were killed.

The bomb's American victims were just as innocent as the Kenyans who happened to work near them. But at least the Americans knew that representing their nation abroad carried some risk. For the families of the Kenyan and Tanzanian dead and injured, there is not even this slim consolation or explanation of the tragedy that has befallen them. This calamity is compounded by the poverty of both countries, which makes both medical and economic recovery more difficult.

To Kenyans, the arbitrariness of their victimization was matched only by that of their rescuers - Israelis. Of all the countries in the world, it was Israel that was willing and able to send a crack rescue team and, within hours, start pulling victims from the wreckage. The Israeli team was a reserve military unit, meaning that they all had to drop out of their daily lives, gather the sniffer dogs and tons of equipment, and fly off to Kenya on a moment's notice. About 40 of the team of 170 have come home already, but the rest remain to continue the search for the dead and wounded.

The fact that Israel is so expert in the rescue of victims from collapsed buildings is, of course, a macabre badge of honor. It is an expertise that no one would wish on any nation. Still, it is to Israel's credit that we can export, not only our high technology, but our compassion and ability.

Like the 1976 Operation Entebbe against airplane hijackers - in which Kenya provided a critical refueling stop for Israeli forces, the 1981 attack against the Iraqi reactor at Osirak, and the 1991 airlift of Ethiopian immigrants, Israel has once again demonstrated its long reach on both military and humanitarian missions. Though it has received less attention, the special Home Front Command unit has been deployed abroad numerous times before, including following devastating earthquakes in Mexico City (1985) and Armenia (1988), the Rwandan civil war

(1994), and even to assist in putting out a massive fire in Turkish arms factories last year.

It is true that these missions are not entirely selfless from a national perspective, since they provide Israel with good publicity and the IDF unit with important training opportunities. But these ulterior motives cannot account for the personal risks and hardships that Israeli soldiers undertake on such missions, nor do they detract from the goodness of the deed that Israelis have contributed to people who share nothing with us but common humanity.

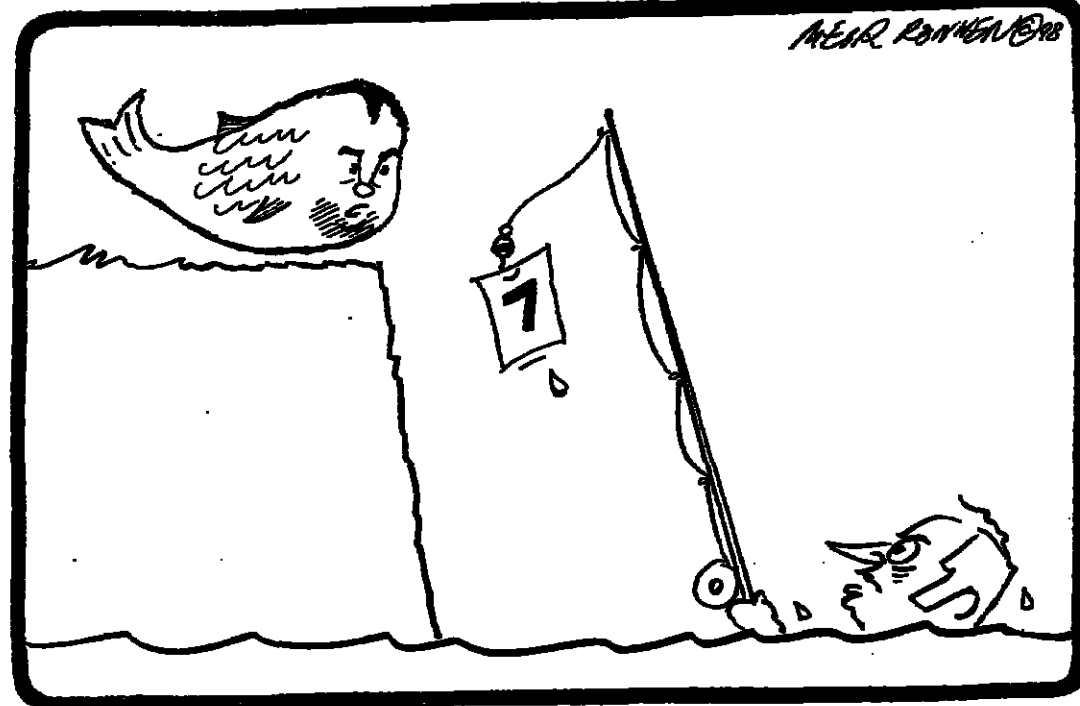
Samuel Ngana, a Kenyan bank worker pulled from the wreckage on Saturday, demanded to meet and thank his Israeli rescuers. An Israeli doctor, Lt. Nahum Neshet, told *Yediot Aharonot* that Ngana had tried to convince them not to attempt a rescue, thinking he was going to die anyway. Neshet responded, "I am a doctor, and I won't let you die."

Even if those involved feel they are just doing their job, and what comes naturally, Israel is the country that in this case exemplified such supposedly "normal" impulses. It should be equally normal for other nations to at least emulate, if not go beyond, Israel's approach to combating terrorism. The sad fact is that American claims that it will punish terrorists lack credibility, and in any case do not go far enough.

In his radio address regarding the embassy bombings, President Bill Clinton vowed to "pursue terrorists until the cases are solved and justice is done." But it is precisely this legalistic attitude that makes a mockery of the fight against terrorism. Terrorism cannot be deterred by endless and inconclusive investigations seeking ironclad proof of responsibility, which is exactly what has led to the lack of anyone paying the price for the bombing of the US Khobar Towers barracks in Saudi Arabia, in June 1996, in which 19 airmen perished.

Israel has long known that it is impossible to fight terrorism without holding those who control the territory they come from responsible. This was true during the '50s and '60s with Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, later with the PLO in Lebanon, and now regarding the Palestinian Authority and Hamas.

Fighting terrorism is not a matter of "solving cases" with courtroom-level standards of proof, but acting quickly and decisively against known terrorists and their bases of support. As the recent bombings show, the price of not doing so will be paid not just by the United States, but by defenseless nations chosen by terrorists to become part of their global battlefield.



When silence is golden

MOSHE ZAK

The military aircraft that flew the IDF's rescue team to Nairobi on Shabbat were not the first to travel this route on a rescue mission.

They were preceded by the aircraft that had stopped in Nairobi, en route home from the heroic Entebbe hostage rescue in Uganda.

In July 1976, Gen. Brent Scowcroft, the president's national security adviser, arrived at the Israeli Embassy in Washington and asked the meaning of the considerable Israeli air traffic in east Africa, which had been spotted by the American monitoring stations on the Horn of Africa.

Scowcroft did not receive an immediate reply. Only when the aircraft were on their way home was the secret divulged to the Americans, who congratulated the Israelis on the mission to free the hostages from Palestinian terrorists.

This time, over 20 years later, the rescue operation in Nairobi was fully coordinated with the American defense secretary. This is not just because the terror blast was at the American Embassy, but also because today there is cooperation and strategic planning between Israel and the US.

The IDF and US medical corps, in their joint maneuvers, had already established procedures for cooperation in the event of major terror attacks. It should therefore be no surprise that the hundreds of Israeli rescue workers who left for Nairobi after the attack knew immediately what to do. They were well-practiced, both in rescue procedures and in their coordination with the American unit.

THIS cooperation was initiated following the October 1983 explosion at the US Marines base in Lebanon. When that occurred, Israel offered to hospitalize the wounded at Rambam Hospital in Haifa, close to the location of the attack. But the American defense secretary rejected the offer, preferring to hospitalize the soldiers further away, in Germany.

He was severely criticized for

this move in the Senate. The result was joint maneuvers, which determined that Rabbat would be used by US forces in case of an emergency in the region.

Since then, the US has not shied away from or denied cooperating with Israel in the fight against terror. In recent days, however, some-

Anti-terror cooperation with the Americans is necessary, but it is best that it remain discreet

thing occurred which may be a cause for concern in the future. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu decided not to make do with the current level of cooperation with the American security agencies, but instead publicly approached the US with a proposal to cooperate in the investigation to find the Moslem terrorists who attacked the US embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam.

Now, cooperation with the Americans is possible and may even be necessary to track down the monstrous car bombers. But intelligence operations are, by their very nature, most successful when they remain discreet. They do not respond favorably to publicity.

ON the eve of the Gulf War, when the US concentrated immense forces in the region to force Saddam Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait, the Iraqi government suggested that it would be willing to withdraw from Kuwait if, in return, the US gave assurances that it would settle the Israel-Palestinian conflict. The Russian foreign minister offered to mediate to help achieve this.

The US, however, turned the deal down outright, as it would have enhanced Iraq's status in the Arab world, since it could then

claim that only it, Iraq, was capable of extracting Israeli concessions for the benefit of the Palestinians.

It is quite possible that the sense of panic in the face of possible terrorist attacks of the same kind as last Friday's will lead to similar ideas of concessions at Israel's expense.

It is therefore preferable, at this stage, to let sleeping dogs lie. Over-emphasizing the cooperation between Israeli and US intelligence may trigger a counterreaction on the part of Americans who have not reconciled themselves to cooperating with Israel, and might push the administration to act against Israel to appease Moslem terrorists, in the hope that they will end their attacks against the US.

There are, in fact, governments in Europe who have bought "quiet" in their countries from Palestinian terrorists in return for turning their backs on Israel. Last week's terrorist bombers may well be hoping that, in the end, the American public will become fed up with the violence and will consider doing the same.

JUDGING by the current state of affairs, the Clinton administration is not likely to give in to the blackmail of Moslem terror organizations. At the moment, the administration is determined to fight terror, to find the perpetrators and even to retaliate.

But if Israel insists on publicly demanding that its intelligence people participate in investigating the crimes at Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, it may well divert attention away from the key objective and towards a debate on how the US can best free itself of terrorist pressure.

At that point, "moderate" Arab states may attempt to lobby the administration to limit and restrict American support for Israel, to curry favor with Moslem terrorists.

Success in the war against terror depends first and foremost on a clear message being sent to the Islamic terror organizations: There will be no submission to car bombs, not even at Israel's expense.

The great grabbing game

DAVID NEWMAN

Behind last week's murder of the two settlers in the West Bank settlement of Yitzhar lies a much more sinister issue, one which lies at the very heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

It concerns the nature of land control and ownership. The question is not only about who has the right to establish settlements, but who has the right to use the land for development, to build houses, to plant trees, to lay claim to the land for future generations.

By all accounts, the residents of Yitzhar have been testing the waters. The settlers had begun to expand their activities beyond the formal limits of the settlement, onto land whose ownership had been claimed for generations by local Palestinian residents.

Even the right-wing Netanyahu government had not authorized this expansion - in fact, last year security forces demolished three illegal buildings on a hilltop 300 meters east of the settlement, and forcibly evacuated some 30 people who had barricaded themselves inside them.

But, as has been common practice among many of the West Bank settlements during the past two decades, formalities haven't stood in the way of what the residents see as their "inalienable" right to extend Jewish control over as much of the region as possible.

The expansion of settlements has been an important means through which the State of Israel, and the Yishuv prior to 1948, extended its de facto control over the land. While we tend to think of the Arab-Israeli conflict at the national level, focusing on the problems of boundary in demarcation and peace with our neighbors, we tend to ignore the local dimensions of the conflict, which are expressed through the old Zionist policy of "a dunam here

and a dunam there."

Of course, the legal situation in the West Bank is different from that in Israel proper. Sovereignty allows a state to undertake actions which, however discriminatory, have a legal basis. Many land confiscations within Israel have been appealed to the courts, which dismissed the appeals on grounds that the state is acting within its rights to confiscate land for what are deemed as "legitimate public purposes."

At most, the courts may order compensation to be paid to the original landowners, while in many cases - especially those dating back to the multitude of Arab villages which were overrun and eventually destroyed in the War of Independence - even those rights are denied.

BUT Israel does not possess any form of sovereignty in the West Bank. The only status it has in international law is that of "occupying power." Israel does not view itself as the sovereign power there because it has never formally attempted to annex these territories, unlike the case of east Jerusalem or the Golan Heights.

The international conventions governing the administration of occupied territory are clear, in that they forbid any confiscation of private lands, except in rare cases where a bona fide defensive purpose can be determined. Even in these cases, the land can only be used for the defensive - not civilian - purposes and must be returned to its former owners when that defensive purpose no longer exists.

West Bank settlements do not, nor have they ever, fulfilled any defensive function. On the con-

trary, many in the defense establishment see them as a burden, involving extra guard duty and road patrols, new perimeter fences and the investment of scarce military resources which could probably be put to better use elsewhere.

But West Bank settlements do - as the kibbutzim and moshavim of the 1920's and 1930's did - create facts on the ground that will be difficult, if not impossible, to remove and which must be taken into account in any future political settlement between Israel and the Palestinians.

In this respect, the settlements have served their purpose. The official Israeli negotiating stance is that Jewish settlements must remain in situ, and even the moderates amongst the policy makers are only prepared to suggest that a few isolated communities, out of a total of some 140 settlements, may have to eventually be removed.

Thus settlements have fulfilled a political, rather than defensive, function. They have laid claim to land, exercising a form of de facto control, which may later be translated into some form of de jure Israeli sovereignty.

The residents of Yitzhar, and others like them, understand this game. They are constantly trying to test the boundaries of just how much they can extend their control over land before it blows up in their face - as it did last week.

And, paradoxically, the outcome of these murders is exactly what they sought in the first place - government authorization of the expansion of the settlement and the construction of a new residential neighborhood. This is a dangerous game, one which will continue to be played out until a final territorial demarcation of separate Israeli and Palestinian territories is in place.

On morality

DENI ELLIOTT

August promises to be a month full of dissection of deals and details regarding the Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinsky relationship. As the nation focuses, again, on who did what, who saw what and who said what, it is important to keep an eye on a larger theme.

Public trust has taken a serious hit in this sordid matter. Americans now have good reason to be suspicious of government, of the media and of individuals who seem to offer friendship. This suspicion is not the same as healthy skepticism. Instead, the need for such caution signals a society in serious trouble.

An analysis of some of the more flagrant violations of public trust, however, might help readers take in news reports with a more critical eye and might encourage government and news media to operate on a higher standard.

What's wrong with literary agent Lucianne Goldberg and hopeful author Linda Tripp conspiring to set up Lewinsky? They were, after all, trying to get a book contract. What's wrong is that enticing and entrapping another person robs her of autonomy.

Treating the other as an object to achieve our own purposes illustrates the lowest form of moral development.

What's wrong with the most sophisticated journalists lapping up leaks from the independent counsel's office? After all, Washington is flooded with leaks. But, even there, it's toxic. Consider why.

In months past, citizens' got reports of what "sources say" witnessed would testify to before the grand jury. But what we needed to know was that independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr would violate professional ethics, and maybe the law, to keep spinning the story at the same speed as other players not bound by promises of prosecutorial silence. The independent counsel has a special obligation to protect the secrecy of grand-jury proceedings.

THE HISTORY of philosophy is full of examples of philosophers who counsel that it is sometimes judicious for leaders to engage in duplicity. However, in each case, the deception is justified as the only way to maintain civil order in a society when it is impossible to remove a leader from office.

Thomas Hobbes, the 17th-century British philosopher, placed the sovereign above the rules of ordinary citizens, but only because maintaining society was imperative.

Even Niccolo Machiavelli, the Florentine philosopher from a century earlier, who is credited with telling the Prince that justification for lying can be found in the realization that people are naturally corrupt, makes his recommendation for how and when leaders ought to deceive on the basis that it is necessary for the monarch to stay in power at all costs.

The classical justifications for leaders' deceptions break down when we conceive of government as an institution that expresses the will of the people in an evolving way, and when we remember that all those in power are assumed to have only temporary tenure.

It is ironic that we see such questionable behavior in our leaders just as moral philosophers are thinking in far grander ways than the old dictate "Avoid causing harm." For the first time, women philosophers and psychologists are being heard in a clear and sustained way.

These new voices suggest that the sort of minimal morality promoted by the traditional canon cannot sustain relationships in the public or private arena.

The feminist approach suggests the most ethical decision is one that takes care of everyone's needs. What is ultimately most important is how we can act in ways that maintain relationships. Deception is wrong because it breaks those bonds. Exploitation is wrong because it sacrifices one person for another's agenda.

This new language of ethics is language that rejects judgment based on the letter of the law.

In her classic article "What Do Women Want in a Moral Theory?" contemporary philosopher Annette Baier notes, "Sensible knaves are precisely those who exploit us without breaking the law." Government and news media should foster the trust required to maintain civic relationships rather than act in ways that break the bonds. It is society that supports these vital institutions. It doesn't take much moral development for politicians and journalists to understand it's in their self-interest not to destroy the society their jobs depend on.

If they do understand, August may be different in important ways from the never-ending rumors and speculations of January. Citizens may find themselves getting a little less detail, fewer unattributed leaks. But that would leave time for politicians and reporters to address the important policy questions of true concern to citizens in a self-governing society.

(Los Angeles Times)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DISREGARD OF THE FACTS

Sir, - The irate references to India in your editorial on the International Criminal Court, "Another UN Obscurity" (July 20) were based on wrong information.

India did not vote against the statute: it was one of 20 countries which abstained. Our major reservation concerned the powers given in the statute, to the UN Security Council to bind even states which do not sign the ICC statute. The power to bind non-states Parties to any international treaty is not a power given to the council by the UN Charter.

A similar disregard of facts is evident in the editorial "Alarm Bells in Kashmir" (August 2).

Pakistan continues to sponsor terrorism in India using both religious fundamentalists and mercenaries.

This has nothing to do with either "Islam's" rights of expression or Pakistan's right of nationhood. The US State Department's annual survey of Global Terrorism in April 1998 once again reiterated that there are reports of "official Pakistan support to militants fighting in Kashmir."

It also noted that the Pakistan based Harkat-ul-Ansar which kidnapped tourists in Kashmir has been designated a "foreign terrorist organization" by the US. Clashes on the border erupted this year, as in previous years, in August, because the peak summer

period is used by Pakistan to step up the infiltration of terrorists into India over mountain passes that are otherwise snowbound.

The prime minister of India has recently underlined India's willingness to strengthen its commitment to the policy of no-first-use of nuclear weapons by undertaking bilateral agreements with Pakistan (which has not accepted the suggestion) and other countries, as well as engaging in discussions for a global no-first-use agreement.

RANJAN MATHAI
Embassy of India in Israel.
Tel Aviv.

IMPORTANT VISITS

were helpless at the hands of the other.

But Newman (who admits that in his youth he himself participated in these trips), as a British Jew who chose to make aliyah himself, seems to be missing the entire concept of our country.

The State of Israel, with all its admittedly complex problems, exists for the sole purpose of providing Jews a homeland. If anything, visits to the State of Israel for American teenagers are often a point of departure through which they come face to face with issues far beyond their immediate grasp.

One cannot visit here and fail to recognize that relations between Arab and Jew, the Israeli political Left and Right, the religious and secular are seriously tenuous. It is evident everywhere, whether the

actual history of the Jewish people (which Newman significantly discounts) is presented or not.

Indeed, without these tours (and future visits to the State of Israel), Jewish communities throughout the Diaspora would fail to develop the ties which bind Jews everywhere to the land of Israel, and would make this country's fragile existence in the eyes of the rest of the world even more difficult.

Newman should simply consider the State of Israel without the support of the United States, and then realize that that relationship is kept alive by those same teenagers when they mature into learned adults.

CAREY ROBINSON WOKCHOK
Ramat Poleg.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On August 12, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported from Washington that a \$100m. loan for Israel from Export-Import Bank was under consideration by the US government. The Israel pound would be sounder than the Palestinian pound, declared Mr. Eliezer

Kaplan, the minister of finance, on the successful conclusion of the launching of the First National Loan.

25 years ago: On August 12, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that a last-minute change in flight schedules from Beirut

Airport prevented the capture of Dr. George Habash and other Palestine terrorist leaders when Israel Air Force jets intercepted an Iraqi-bound plane over Lebanon and forced it to land in Israel at a military airport.

Alexander Zvielli

صكازان الاصل

The risky art of creativity

Fostering creativity takes grit - stepping back to allow your kids to face failure, discouragement and temporary frustration. But in the long run it pays off, Elizabeth Large writes



Parents sometimes define the creative act in narrow ways. They may insist on art or music lessons, while there are many paths creativity can take. (Karen Ben-Zion)

Imaginative tips

- Give your child more time to play and explore. Here are some suggestions for helping creativity flourish:
- Provide open-ended time for exploration or experimentation.
- Don't limit the use of materials. If you have a box of materials, let your child use them as they see fit.
- Encourage without judging, even with the use of your voice. "Tell me about your picture." "What is it?" "After all, a picture doesn't have to be anything."
- Give kids plenty of opportunity to explore nature.
- Notice an appreciation of the creative act by making kids to musicians, dancers, performers, plays and dancers. Celebrate the birthday of famous creative person.

ably a high to create something that is original and appreciated. ... "If you feel good about taking risks, and you do not care that much whether you end up being successful most of the time, then probably you are a good parent to encourage creativity in your child. "You can help the child avoid too much frustration by calibrating challenges and by helping the child cope with situations where things did not work out as you and the child might have wished," says Gardner.

where there is incentive to perform well. The benefits of competition are balanced by the fact that only one person can win, which puts pressure on the child to come up with the "right" solution quickly.

Kids may end up feeling that exploring alternate ways of doing things is a waste of time. And speaking of time, children need it to explore and daydream.

"Musing around can lead to very productive outcomes," says Schulman.

Unfortunately, open-ended time is something that's hard to come by these days. Along with the piano lessons and Little League games and Cub Scouts, parents who want to encourage creativity should give their children some free time without any programmed activity.

That may mean urging kids not to sit in a corner and read books all day, as well as turning off the television or computer.

Along with open time, parents can help develop their children's imaginations and ability to be flexible by providing plenty of raw materials for them to fool around with - "fool around" being the operative phrase here.

This means blank paper and crayons as opposed to coloring books. Raw materials might also include a piano where children are allowed to play even if they haven't had lessons and aren't playing music. Parents don't have to limit themselves to conventional art supplies.

"We believe in providing children with a lot of different materials so they can experiment with them," says Nancy Kramer, executive director of Downtown Baltimore Child Care, a nonprofit organization.

Before Father's Day, kids at the center were given pieces of wood in various sizes and shapes to make gifts for their dads. They glued them together in remarkably inventive ways, says Kramer. Some sprinkled their creations with glitter. No one - least of all the recipients - seemed concerned about exactly what the objects d'art were.

Maybe one of those children will create a great sculpture later in life. Or maybe not.

But the important thing was that no one hovered over them to make sure that their creations looked like something that could be used as a paperweight, or said "What is it?" or otherwise made the kids worry about how their work was being judged.

"Leave the creative process in the hands of the child," cautions Rosenberg. "Don't turn it into an activity where they have to produce."

Parents can also give their children an appreciation of creativity in the abstract. Schulman suggests introducing them to the idea that the creative act is a good thing by pointing out what is unusual and imaginative. "Isn't it interesting how he combined the buttons and the flowers?"

Parents can celebrate the birthday of a creative hero with their children, learning a little something together about an artist's or inventor's life. "Even if the child doesn't turn into a creative person, the appreciation is there," says Schulman.

But, he adds, "Don't condemn the mundane." (The Baltimore Sun)

Not a job for everyone

By SUSAN D. HAAS

Help Wanted: Are you organized? Can you juggle multiple priorities? We're looking for a highly motivated dedicated employee with excellent problem-solving, trouble-shooting and analytical skills. Must be very detail-oriented, meet deadlines

paycheck dad. The other 83 percent of us occur in some other flavor. In 1996, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that almost 25 million mothers of minor children participated full time or part time in the paid labor force.

All of us, however, are full-time mothers. There are no part-time mothers because there are no part-time children. The beeper is always on. We know a few of the job skills children demand from mom: Tolerate 427 interruptions a day.

Listen to two people simultaneously, one with each ear. Detect the source of peculiar odors with bloodhound accuracy. Explain the conjugal truth about cats and dogs.

For the rest, why not ask the boss? "If you had to hire a mom," I asked our 8-year-old daughter, "How would you describe the job you'd want her to do?" "I'd want a mom who is nice, fun, interesting. Funny. Loving. To play chess with me. Play outside. Read to me."

"Anything else?" "Hmmm. She taps an index finger against her lips. "That's it."

OK ... She doesn't mention anything that precludes holding a paying job. Nor any of the 1950s stuff moms still squeeze in here and there. Chef. Waitress. Hairdresser. Personal shopper. Cashier. Appointments secretary. She trots away as my son, 3, climbs into my lap.

"What's a mommy's job?" "To let me sit on a lap. Make roads in my sandbox. Put some pictures up. Read a book to me. Tickle."

He wants love. Can do. On any schedule. "What else?" "And do this," he says, pursing his lips and puffing his cheeks. I purse my lips and puff my cheeks. He pops them with his palms. "I farted!" he shouts.

I once tried to teach my daughter not to use the word "fart." "Say 'passed gas,'" I said. It worked for about a week. Then, one evening she informed me she'd learned a trick during recess. "I can cut cheese!" she laughed, demonstrating the blow-on-the-inside-of-the-elbow technique.

Help Wanted: Mother. Risk-taker desired. Good sport preferred. Willing to volunteer for life-long experiment. Benefits intangible, delivered as per chaos theory. Primary responsibility: to love. (The Allentown Morning Call)



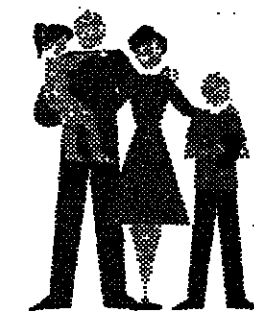
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and work well under pressure. Must be able to work evening and weekend hours. Also required: a valid driver's license and the ability to lift 50 pounds.

Help wanted: Mother. The fine print reads: Hired for life. Round-the-clock shifts. No flex-time, vacations or holidays. No paychecks, bonuses, raises, or promotions. No profit sharing, retirement, insurance, or savings plans.

The job description varies little, mother to mother. Yet, one mother scoffs at another because she spends more or less time with her children. This one is ridiculed if she brings home a paycheck, and that one's damned if she doesn't. One wishes she hadn't quit her job, another longs to. Can we stop now? Only 17 percent of all families comprise a stay-at-home mom and a bring-home-a-

Walking in your child's shoes



By Ruth Mason

"You gave him more ice cream!" "No fair! How come she gets to stay up till nine?" "You pay more attention to the boys. I always knew I was adopted!"

Anyone who has raised more than one child has heard these and infinite other variations on the sibling-rivalry theme. In essence, all these protests and complaints boil down to one major fear: "You love him more than you love me."

To get parents to understand what sibling rivalry is all about, Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish, authors of the best-selling *Siblings Without Rivalry - How to Help Your Children Live Together so You Can Live Too* (Avon Books), like to have parents imagine this scenario: Your husband (or wife) puts his arm around you one day and says, "Honey, I love you so much, and you're so wonderful, that I've decided to have another wife just like you."

Imagine your reaction. Then imagine how you feel when your husband brings the new wife home, makes you share your room and clothes with her, expects you to help take care of her and be nice to her. Imagine how you feel when you see your husband having fun with

his new wife. Do you think you might feel intense, even murderous jealousy? Might rage and thoughts of revenge boil up inside you?

Now you can begin to imagine how your children sometimes feel about their siblings.

To continue our hypothetical situation, imagine yourself overcome by these difficult feelings and trying to communicate them to your spouse. How do you feel when he tells you you're being ridiculous and selfish; that it makes him angry when you talk like that; that you're being negative and difficult; that his feelings for the new wife don't take away from his feelings towards you?

None of his reactions help and only make you feel worse. Yet, how often do we say similar things to our children when they complain about their siblings?

What we all want when we're feeling bad is understanding and comfort. According to Faber and Mazlish, that's just what our kids want, too. In fact, they say, the good feelings our children have for one another will surface only once the bad feelings are allowed to come out.

They suggest several ways to encourage the expression of these difficult feelings. First, be sure to give your child your full attention when she starts to talk. Put down the newspaper, the baby, the dish you're washing and look your child full in the face to take in what she is saying. This is an emotional task more than a verbal one. Although Faber and Mazlish suggest the types of things you can say to show your child you understand, it is your feeling of understanding more than your words that will comfort your child.

Here's a scene we've all been through: Your five-year-old comes crying to you that his older brother kicked him out of his room and called him a nudnik to boot. You could try to intervene, act as judge, jury and referee, but you probably know from experience that that won't get you far. Here's how one mother in a Faber-Mazlish workshop handled the situation - notice that she acknowledges her son's feelings and gives him in fantasy what he doesn't have in reality.

Mother: "That must have hurt your feelings. You wish he'd tell you in a nice way that he wants to be alone."

Son doesn't say anything, but stops crying.

Mother: "You wish he'd say, 'Come on in, Itai. Let's play!' Son: 'Yeah, and he'd let me look in his telescope.'"

Mother: "As long as you wanted."

Son: "And give me some of his stickers. I would do that if I had a little brother."

Mother: "You know just the kind of big brother you would be." Son: "Yeah!"

You can see from this exchange that a perfunctory acknowledgment of feelings is not what this is all about. It's about walking around in your child's shoes for a while, trying to feel what he is feeling and showing him that you understand. You might not be able to convince your older son to let his little brother in to play right then, but you can make the little one feel much better.

Sometimes we don't have the patience or strength to listen at the moment - especially when the gripe list is long. Faber and Mazlish write. In that case, it's okay to say something like, "I hear

how upset you are with your brother, but right now it's hard for me to listen. Let's sit down after dinner and talk about it."

A mother in one of the authors' workshops came up with the idea of a "gripe book" for each child. A father wrote down his daughter's complaints about her brother and then read them back to her, to her great interest.

After hearing Faber and Mazlish's ideas, one reserved mother thought she'd try it with her quiet seven-year-old, even though she had never expressed any hostile feelings toward her three-year-old sister but rather just tended to ignore her.

One day, while the little one was napping, the mother asked her older daughter to sit next to her on the couch. She put her arm around her and said, "I'm glad we can be alone together, because I haven't talked to just you in a long time. I've been thinking ... sometimes it must be a pain in the neck to have a younger sister. You have to share everything with her - your room, your toys - even your mother."

"She said such terrible things," the mother reported. "How much she hated her. How she wished her dead sometimes. I started to get sick to my stomach. It was a good thing the phone rang, because I don't know how much more I could have listened to." That night, when the mother went to check on her girls, she thought she wasn't seeing straight: "There were the two of them in one bed, sleeping with their arms around each other! Faber and Mazlish's conclusion: Insisting on good feelings between siblings leads to bad feelings. Allowing for bad feelings between siblings leads to good feelings.

Tired of asking people if they speak English?

Shaar Lamathil



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By Batsheva Mink

Turning a bare plot of earth into a blooming garden can be a daunting experience for even a keen gardener, and the instant-oasis option can be very enticing. You just open your wallet, hire a landscape designer, and the scattered building debris and dried grass suddenly become a magnificent garden.

There is no waiting for trees to mature, no desperate attempts to fill empty borders, no small seedlings to mollycoddle.

I recently came across an instant garden of this sort, where constant flooding had stunted the plant growth. The problem was a matter of bad drainage, typical of instant gardens.

The amount of water in the soil determines to a great extent its fertility. Drainage allows water to pass through the soil quickly, without stagnating or collecting underneath plants to block out air pockets and turn the soil sour. Lack of drainage blocks oxygen to the roots, the hardest-working part of the plant. Wet soil also remains cold in winter, is difficult to cultivate and serves as a breeding place for pests and diseases.

For good drainage, dig deep – right down to the sub-soil. Break up the ground with a fork but avoid bringing it to the surface. Remove any buried rubble. If your soil seems compacted you can always add some volcanic stones, called *toof* in Hebrew. The upper layer of the soil can be mixed with plenty of compost. Healthy soil grows healthy plants.

Don't be in too much of a hurry to get the plants in. Gardens are like icebergs, nine-tenths remain unseen (the preparations).

Making a garden is like building a house – the top part is only as strong as the foundation below and there is much to be gained by taking the early planning stage very slowly.

Three points to consider when making a new garden are:

- Make it top priority to suit the garden to the site.
- Meet the requirements of all family members.
- Plan for minimum upkeep. If you can't take care of the garden regularly, it may end up as one big mess.

Most of all, plant the garden so that it will give you pleasure over



A large garden can be divided into more intimate spaces.

many years.

Everyone has their own ideas about the kind of plants they want to grow, but one should take into account that garden help is not easy to get nowadays, and when you do find it, it is usually expensive.

Therefore, it is a good idea to give serious thought to the advantages of labor-saving garden features. Preparing the soil well saves a lot of extra work later on, since your plants will grow strong and look healthy as a result.

Here are some ideas for planning the garden:

1. Get your ideas down on paper.
2. Find out what sort of soil you have – clay, sand, alkaline or acid. Not every plant thrives in every type of soil. If there is very little topsoil in the garden, you may have to buy some extra and add it to.

3. Don't try to fight nature – work with it instead. You cannot make a shady garden sunny, especially if a 20-meter tree or a six-meter wall casts the shade. There are many interesting and colorful shade-loving plants to choose from. It is possible to change a sunny garden into a shady one by planting trees.

4. Find out which way your garden faces because the direction will affect how much sun it gets and which plants will do well in it.

5. Add a few curves to the lawns or paths. Straight lines have a tendency to make the garden look boxy, whereas curves add softness and a natural flow.

6. Plan the design so that the most spectacular plants can be easily seen from the windows. This is often a comfort in bad weather.

7. Remember, trees are the backbone of the planting scheme, they introduce shade and look very stately. But don't plant a tree too close to the house – the roots could eventually penetrate the

foundations.

8. Try not to accomplish everything in one go. There are two main planting seasons – autumn for bulbs and spring for plants. Trees and roses should be planted in the winter.

9. Take the weather into consideration. If you live in Eilat, you may not be able to grow plants from cooler climates. But you can grow plants that need warmth in the winter.

10. A large garden can be divided into more intimate spaces that also make general management easier.

In all but the smallest gardens, it should be possible to screen off one or two small areas to create a small, secret hideaway full of roses or scented plants.

11. If you have decided you must have a lawn, take into consideration the amount of water it needs and the time it takes to maintain it. Lawns grow fast during the summer and need to be fertilized, mowed and watered regularly to stay in good shape.

Remember all plants need water, some more than others. If you don't want to end up with a huge water bill, you may want to opt for plants with low water requirements.

Of course, it would be ideal if we could choose just the right size garden with just the right soil and just the right amount of sun. But most of us must be content with what we've got. This usually means plenty of builder's rubble, soil without organic matter, little or no shade and poor drainage.

But don't despair. There is a Chinese proverb, which says: If you want to be happy for a week, take a wife; if you want to be happy for a month, kill your pig; but if you want to be happy all your life, make a garden.

Next week: Part two on how to design your garden.



There are two main planting seasons – autumn for bulbs, and spring for plants.

Batsheva Mink is a curator at the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Givat Ram.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, POB 3943, Jerusalem 91039

TIP OF THE WEEK

Before planting anything, make a plan on paper. It is much easier to erase mistakes than to move a tree or shrub that has been planted in the wrong space. After you do plant, make a note of the date.



Add a few curves to the lawns or paths. They add softness and a natural flow.

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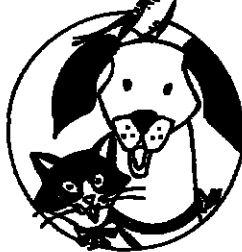
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Heads 'N' Tails



By D'vora Ben Shaul

How many different sounds does a cat make? Far more than one would imagine.

James Clavell, a blind musician, claimed that he could identify more than 100 different sounds made by his cat. This seemed far-fetched, but modern voice-print techniques have proven that the range of cat sounds is far greater than formerly thought and there is little reason to doubt that Clavell was right.

Of course, to those who neither know nor want to know anything about cats there are only two voices, "meow" and caterwauling. But any one who lives with a cat knows that there is a highly developed language at work.

There's the soft call of "pay attention to me," the impatient yowl of "open the door already, I've been sitting here for ages!" and, of course the frantic "feed me! Now! I'm famished." And then, that pitiful mewl, "how can you possibly fill my dish with kibble while you eat trout?"

Also we mustn't forget the aggrieved grumble when a cat is ousted from a favorite spot. Not all cats speak alike, they're like people in that respect. My tomcat raps out his commands in the strident tones of a drill sergeant while my female, a lady to her claw tips, always speaks in modulated tone.

Now there's a female kitten, unexpected, unwanted but not, for all that, unloved. So far she only squeaks.

Cats use such a variety of sounds because they really like to communicate – with other cats and even with a friendly dog. With their human companions they use even more sounds, because we are somewhat blind to the more subtle nuances of body language and studied glances.

It has also been observed that cats that are talked to develop a greater vocal range than cats that are not. Children's cats almost always have a more developed

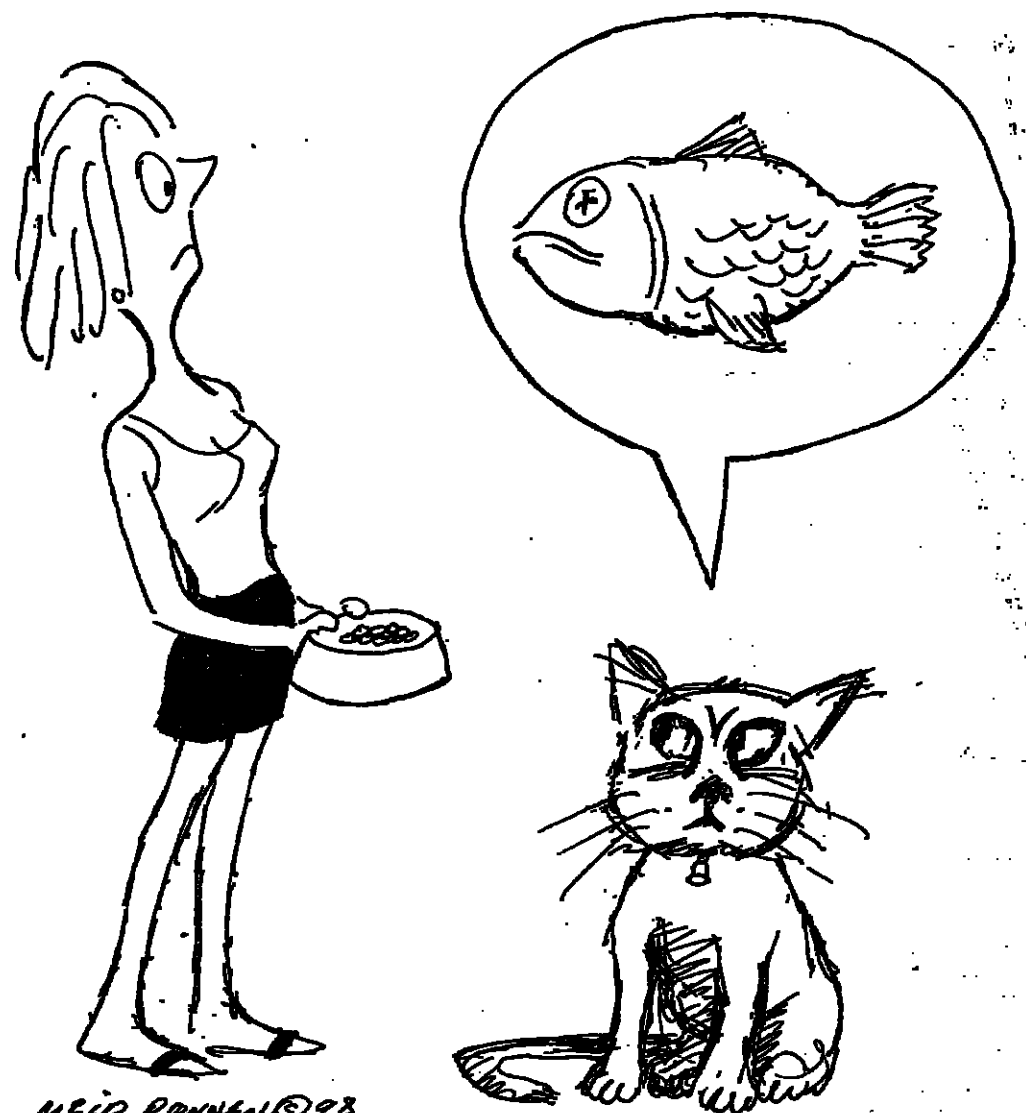
vocabulary than cats living with a single person.

For this reason, after many futile attempts to get reliable readings from laboratory cats, audio specialists took their experiments into

homes and got results that could not be duplicated in the laboratory.

It is not yet clear how much of the cat vocabulary is duplicated and whether the same sound means the same thing coming

from different cats. It is possible that each cat invents its own language when communicating with people and uses a generic language when communicating with other cats.



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Wednesday,
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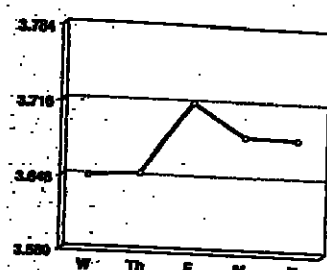
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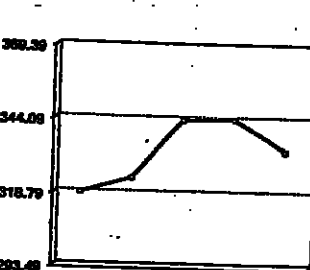
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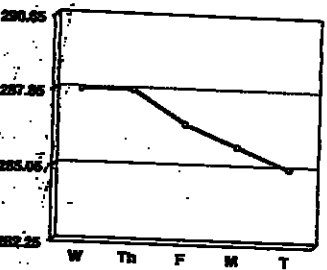


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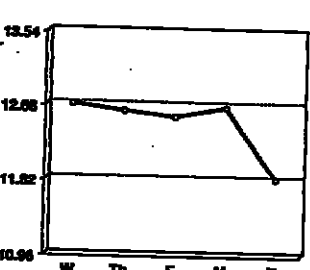
GOLD

\$ per ounce

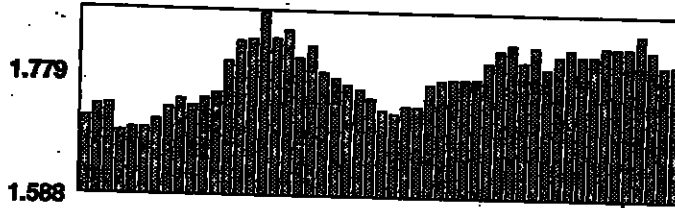


OIL

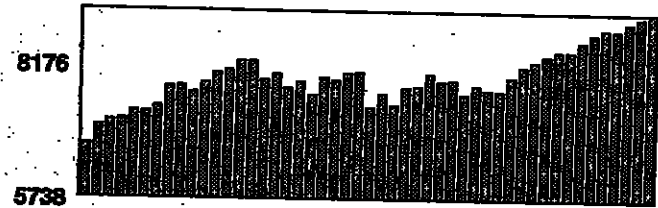
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



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July trade deficit down 3%

Exports totaled \$1.87b. in July, a 3.76 percent drop compared with the same month last year, while imports fell by 3.62% to \$2.33b., according to data released by the Central Bureau of Statistics yesterday. The trade deficit fell by 3.1% last month compared with July 1997.

However, excluding diamonds, ships, and aircraft, exports rose by 1.8%, while imports were flat, according to the figures, which do not include trade with the Palestinian Authority, Israel's second largest export market after the US.

Over the past few months, sales of machinery and electrical equipment, food, and jewelry declined, while there was a decline in the pace of growth in telecommunications and control equipment and metals. However, there was increased growth in exports of electronic components and computers.

Industrial exports, including software, comprised 71% of sales abroad last month, followed by diamonds at 27% and agriculture at 2%. Agriculture exports are down 2.3% for the season, which began last October, compared with the previous season.

Nina Gilbert

Hapoalim offering abroad canceled

The Arison-Dankner group has canceled a planned sale of Bank Hapoalim shares in the US. In a statement the bank said that the sale was delayed until the consortium decides overseas market conditions are right. The cancellation is expected to affect mainly the Dankner Group, which planned to use the money to repay part of the loans it took last year to acquire control over Israel's largest bank.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Jordanian trade minister arrives for talks

Jordanian Industry Minister Hani Mulki arrives here today for a day of trade talks with Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky. The two are to discuss ways to boost trade, including encouraging joint ventures, especially industrial zones in Jordan recognized for free-trade status under the Israeli-US accord.

Mulki is also to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Bilateral trade doubled in the first half of the year.

Nina Gilbert

Credit card war intensifies

The struggle between credit card providers intensified yesterday when Bank Leumi announced that it will provide its clients with Visa ICC and Diners credit cards free of charge. In addition, the clients will not have to pay the insurance fee required currently by all providers. The bank, which controls I.C.C. VISA together with Israel Discount Bank, said that each customer who has a monthly average of six transactions will get the card for free. The move is a direct reaction to a series of benefits offered last week by Visa Alpha, the new credit card supplier. A spokesman for Visa Alpha reacted to the move by saying that it indicates that the company has succeeded in revolutionizing the whole market. "It's been only a week and Bank Leumi is already trying to imitate us."

Dan Gerstenfeld

At least 3 groups to bid for Discount

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Three groups have already confirmed their intention to bid for a controlling stake in Israel Discount Bank, a source close to deal said last night, on the eve of the closure of the tender today.

The source told *The Jerusalem Post* that the Eliahu and Keil groups have already given a deposit of \$20 million and that the third group is expected to follow suit today. Other bidders may also submit bids today, he noted.

The Eliahu group is led by insurer Shlomo Eliahu and his partners in control of Union Bank - David Lubinsky, the local Peugeot/Citroen importer, and investor Yeshayahu Landau, a stakeholder in Granit Hacarmel. The two other members are Delek Israel, which is controlled by contractor Yitzhak Tshuva, and C.P. Holdings, which is controlled by Bernard Schreier, an Anglo-Jewish entrepreneur who is a partner in Bank Leumi UK and Switzerland and controls hotels properties in Israel.

The second group is led by former Safra family banker Jeffrey Keil, who failed to acquire a controlling stake in Bank Hapoalim. Other members include Edouard Stern and insurance company Locadia.

The third group is led by financier Benny Steinmetz and the US investment company Texas Pacific Group. The bidding groups will have to receive the approval of the Bank of Israel to start the due diligence process for Israel's third largest bank.

Analysts said it is difficult to predict how much money the government will get at the end. "Bank Discount is problematic," said Doron Tsur, head of research at Sahar Securities. "Unlike Bank Hapoalim, it's difficult to get a quick return on the investment."

Discount is considered the least efficient bank in the banking sector.

Discount shares have risen almost 30% since the beginning of the year on expectations that the sale of the government holdings will lead to a sharp rise in the bank's value.



Chinese economy hurt by flooding

A boat carrying flood control volunteers sails past the Bank of China in western Jiujiang. The last official estimate said the floods had caused \$4.8 billion in damage, which will have some influence on the GDP growth target of 8.0 percent set for this year.

(Reuters)

PM's Office: Income tax must not exceed 40%

By DAVID HARRIS

Finance Minister Yaskov Neeman will in the near future announce a tax reform which will include the abolition of exemptions to the value of NIS 5 billion - NIS 8b., but only half of the program will be implemented in January, an official in the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday.

The final version of the proposals has still not been presented to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, despite Neeman's original promise that he would submit them before December 31 last year.

When the plan is eventually handed over to Netanyahu, he will only accept it if it takes the top income tax bracket below 40%, said the official.

"We would like to see it as near as possible to 35% but we'll accept 40%. Every one percent lower than this will be a bonus," said the official.

official.

He did not clarify whether there would also be a cut in national insurance contributions. Presently, top earners pay 50% income tax and 10% to the National Insurance Institute.

The proposal will only be partially implemented at first because there are still budgetary problems, which the Treasury is assessing, he said.

Among the issues the Finance Ministry has to monitor are the need for fiscal restraint, the bid to reduce the size of public sector spending as a percentage of the overall gross domestic product and the ongoing shortfall in revenues from taxation. The official also admitted that those backing the reform are nervous it will prove to be politically unacceptable.

In the eyes of the Prime Minister's Office there are several benefits in the reform including a reduction in the tax burden, creating a

good atmosphere for private consumption, increasing demand and sending out a positive message to investors.

But these and other benefits will only be fully felt if the tax reform is accompanied by three other key measures in the economy, the official said:

- A reduction in interest rates and the associated alteration to the shekel exchange rate mechanism, as announced last week.

- Approving the 1999 state budget with no fiscal expansion.

- Implementing all the structural changes in the economy as put forward in the coming year's budgetary arrangements bill.

MKS on both sides of the Knesset have made it clear they will fight any or reductions in tax exemptions that hit society's weaker elements. Among the most vocal MKs are the members of the social caucus and those who hail from development towns.

FIBI's net falls 11.7%

The First International Bank of Israel yesterday announced that net profit for the first half of the year fell 11.7 percent to NIS 92.1 million from NIS 104.4m. a year ago.

The disappointing results led to a 5.81% decline in the price of FIBI's share on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The bank attributed the decline to falling profitability of its subsidiaries, costs arising from the launching of the new credit card company Visa Alpha, and costs linked to changes in the calculation of interest rates on saving plans. According to the report, FIBI's subsidiaries contributed only NIS 18m. to the bank's net profit compared with NIS 18.8m. a year ago mainly due to a rise in provisions for doubtful debts.

The bank is the first of the country's five largest banks to report its earnings and the other banks are expected to follow suit and show lower profitability.

Analysts said they are worried because of costs which rose by 9% to NIS 460.4m. with salary costs increasing 6.9% to NIS 278.7m.

"The bank is trying to expand its activity and this can only be done by increasing costs," said Doron Tzur head of research at Sahar Securities. "Other banks have actually reduced costs by laying

RESULTS

off workers and therefore are expected to be less affected by rising costs."

FIBI said that net return on capital fell in the first half to 8.2%

from 9.8% a year earlier and 10.5% in the whole of 1997.

Income from financing activities before provision for doubtful debt rose 5.7% to NIS 442.5m. from NIS 418.8m. in the first half of 1997.

Credit to the public on June 30 was NIS 660m, an increase of 17.1%, while deposits from the public rose 18.6% to NIS 35.9m.

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Local lad does the business

IT could only happen at Headingley. After England's poor showing at the famous old ground in Leeds in recent years, it was like days of old (remember 1981) as Alec Stewart's side at last delivered the goods and won a five-match Test series for England for the first time in 11 years in beating South Africa 2-1.

The Leeds result hinged on three England players, Mark Butcher's first innings century, Darren Gough's second innings haul of six wickets and Nasser Hussain's superb 94 in the second innings.

There was also some interesting lbw and caught-behind decisions by umpire Javed Akhtar.

To be fair to the Pakistani official, he was certainly consistent in his umpiring. He gave Allan Donald and Mike Atherton out leg before when TV replays clearly showed that the players had got bat to ball before pad.

Thankfully, neither captain mentioned the umpiring after the game. Akhtar can actually be seen as a victim of the bizarre ICC ruling that Tests need a neutral umpire to stand. Fair enough, but most commentators agree that it would be better to have the same umpire standing throughout a series.

Akhtar, an official for nearly 20 years, had not stood for four months in a game, and yet was flown in for a crucial deciding Test. He was given a second-eleven game to acclimatize and was then thrown into the Headingley cauldron.

Rather unkindly, one of the BBC commentary team mentioned that Akhtar also had a hearing problem

and that might have been the reason he may have missed the nicks on the bats of Donald and Atherton.

The England management allowed the cameras into the dressing room after the game, and not surprisingly, the champagne was flowing. Coach David Lloyd was a little bit late into the celebrations as he had spent most of Sunday, and the few remaining overs on Monday, standing in the passageway next to the dressing rooms to bring England luck.

On that last day, with admission free, over 9,000 hardy Yorkshire folk turned out to cheer on England, with the famous Western Terrace in full voice, particularly when Gough started his run-up.

On the field, there does seem to have been a transformation of England's fortunes since Stewart took over the captaincy from Atherton. Certainly, the Lancastrian's batting has improved (he took the England Man-of-the-Series Award), while Stewart's more aggressive approach has been heartening. The big question now, is whether England can continue where they have left off and win back the Ashes this winter.

PREMIERSHIP football begins this weekend with higher expectations, and salaries to match. Managers are more cautious about signings from France '98 than after the previous

World Cup in the USA. This season,

there will be at least 49 players who featured in France, many of whom were already here before the World Cup.

This time last year, there were 133 foreign players in the Premiership - the figure this season is nearing 200. But despite what appears to be a large influx of foreign players, the figure is not as high as Germany, Italy and France, and there is no overt bad feeling in terms of them hampering the development of young players here.

Judging by Sunday's Charity Shield encounter, Arsenal are going to be difficult to catch again, and David Beckham is in for a rough ride every time he touches the ball. The big talking point about Manchester United is whether the £10 million-plus club have paid for Dutch defender Jaap Stam is money well spent. The club is as famous in the stock market as the transfer market and has gone one stage further in testing fans' loyalty by launching its own TV channel, MUTV.

From September 10, the channel will broadcast seven days a week, six hours a day from a studio outside Old Trafford. Initially, the channel will only be available to viewers who have Sky TV, and for a five month period, including reserve and youth team games, press conferences and the usual interviews with players ad-

infinitum.

One of the candidates for the hardest job in football this season is Alistair Wilson, the man charged with revamping the PR fortunes of Newcastle United.

After the fall-out of the disastrous campaign on and off the field last season when directors Douglas Hall and Freddie Shepherd were secretly recorded verbally abusing fans and players, and other reveries concerning players in bars and clubs hit the back pages, Wilson, recently retired as managing director of Newcastle Breweries, has been brought in to deal with the media hounds.

Newcastle have been given generous 25-1 odds by the bookies to win the Premiership, and they start on Saturday with what should be home banker against newly promoted Charlton.

Finally to David Unsworth, the former Everton and West Ham defender who was transferred to Aston Villa in the summer having been unable to settle in the south. After just a few days training with Villa, the defender told manager John Gregory he was unable to continue with the club as his wife wanted him back in Liverpool.

A deal to return to Everton fell through, and now the player is back in talks with Villa. Gregory, a noted disciplinarian, was reported to be very upset with Unsworth, but will not let the wife to pack her bags, we were going to a new club," Gregory told reporters.

How times change!

Schmeichel nominated for goalkeeper of the century award

WIESBADEN (Reuters) - Denmark's Peter Schmeichel has been shortlisted for a European "Goalkeeper of the Century" award to be announced next January.

The Manchester United stalwart is the only keeper currently active among the seven nominated yesterday by the International Federation of Football History and Statistics (IFFHS).

England's Gordon Banks, Lev Yashin of the Soviet Union, Sepp Maier of Germany, Frantisek Planicka of Czechoslovakia, Ricardo Zamora of Spain and Italy's Dino Zoff were the six other names on the list.

The IFFHS produced a list of Europe's 50 top keepers after asking football specialists and historians from across Europe to vote. The winner of the European Goalkeeper of the Century award will be announced at the World Football Gala '99 next January.

Among those outside the final seven were England's Peter Shilton (eighth), Northern Ireland's Pat Jennings (11th), West Germany's Harald Schumacher (15th) and Edwin van der Sar of the Netherlands, at 27 the youngest player on the list (24th).

Current England goalkeeper David Seaman was joint 32nd, one point behind Italy's Angelo Peruzzi.

SPORTS

in brief

Caesarea golf

Only the hardiest golfers took to Caesarea's tees in Friday's sizzling heat to play in the monthly medal competition. Michael Barnister scored 72 strokes to lead the A division with Cyril Kaufman second with 73 and Chuck Shaikowitz third at 74. In the B division, it was Eric Isaacs with a 72 who took first place. Ben Hoffman and Shmueli Futerman both ended on 74 but Hoffman's better back nine gave him the second place. Yitzhak Dankner won the C division with a 74. Jules Cuburnek was second with 77 with third place going to Yakov Zanati with 78.

Atherton recalled to England 1-day team

LONDON (AP) - Mike Atherton, the hero of England's 2-1 Test series victory over South Africa, was recalled yesterday to the one-day squad for next week's triangular against South Africa and Sri Lanka.

The former England captain is not known as a one-day player has not played in a one-day international since helping England to a 3-0 victory last year over Australia.

The England squad: Alec Stewart (captain), Mike Atherton, Alistair Brown, Robert Croft, Mark Ealham, Angus Fraser, Ashley Giles, Darren Gough, Graeme Hick, Adam Hlihoake, Nasser Hussain, Nick Knight, Peter Martin, Alan Mullally.

England move up in world rankings

LONDON (Reuters) - England have moved up one place in the Wisden world championship rankings after their 2-1 series win over South Africa on Monday.

South Africa drop to third place behind Australia and West Indies. Two points are awarded for winning a series and one for drawing. Standings (tabulate under - played, points, points difference): 1. Australia 1423+9 2. West Indies 1317+4 3. South Africa 1417+3 4. Pakistan 1315+2 5. India 1415+1 6. England 1412+2 7. Sri Lanka 1613+3 8. Zimbabwe 1046-9 9. New Zealand 1618-8

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Favorite son

New Yorkers favor Williams over Piazza

The city's other big-name free agent-in-waiting, who's also seeking a Powerball-sized payoff from a New York baseball team, gets a strong response whenever he steps to the plate, too.

Except they're throwing bouquets, not boos, at Bernie Williams.

Yankee Stadium snuggles up next to Williams just as it does to Darryl Strawberry, or Derek Jeter, or any other New York Yankee of the moment. There's nothing but love coming from the most demanding place to play in the majors.

Not that the affection comes as a surprise. After all, this is a special team entering the seventh inning of a special season, and the starting center fielder is treated as though he's, well, special.

From opening day, Williams has enjoyed the support of a crowd that conveniently ignored his off-season desire for a \$10 million-a-year contract extension, and across town, a verbally abused catcher is dying to know his secret.

This is probably confusing to Mike Piazza, since he has plenty in common with Williams. Both were named All-Stars, they'll finish with respectable numbers at year's end, and this winter, both will ask for the gross national product of Peru.

But only one is universally adored in his own house. Piazza knows what awaits him when the New York Mets return to Shea Stadium: a heaping amount of hostility, heard loudly and clearly.

What Piazza should understand are the harsh realities that separate New York's pair of big-money seekers. Williams responds well to the hazards of playing here. Williams helped deliver a World Series.

Williams comes up clutch with men on base. Williams has the benefit of being surrounded by a solid lineup.

Basically, everything that's missing with Piazza is evident with Williams, who right now is the "better" free-agent buy. Williams is worth a fortune is up to George Steinbrenner. But he has earned the right to ask for it by eliminating most if not all doubt about his value.

Williams couldn't have asked for a better contract year. The team's winning. He's winning. He's pushing for the batting title at .350 and is almost spotless in the field, and this comes despite a season interrupted by injury. The sprained knee has even worked in his favor.

He used it to demonstrate his desire for a strong recovery. After missing a month, Williams rapidly returned to his pre-injury level to once again become the most reliable bat in the lineup.

It wasn't guaranteed to be this way. When agent Scott Boras began demanding Griffey-like dollars for his client just before arbitration, Williams ran the risk of coming off as greedy and

unreasonable. At the very least, Williams was placed in a bind. He had to produce big, or hear boos. New Yorkers don't take kindly to athletes asking for plenty and giving little in return.

But Williams has been solid from the start, and even better lately.

MY CALL

By SHAWN POWERS

Since returning from the DL, he's hitting .355. While it may be true that no Yankee is having a career year, the 31 games Williams missed probably will cost him the 25 home runs and 100 RBI he averaged the last two years.

At least the American League batting title is still well within reach in what figures to be a two-man race with the Minnesota Twins' Todd Walker.

"It's important to me," Williams said. But I think we're doing a good job of setting individual goals aside in return for winning. There may be a point in a game, for instance, where you're going to have to take for yourself or for the team. I think we're doing a lot of taking for the team, and I'm with that."

Williams has always been beloved. He's not a stranger to New York, like Piazza. He grew up within the farm system, became a star, enjoyed a great postseason run in the '96 championship year and stayed dignified and elegant through it all. He didn't allow his contract dispute to turn bitter, either.

"He has a certain kind of innocence about him ... and I think that's helped him with the fans, too," Manager Joe Torre said. "Bernie has never been a braggadocious guy. He does his talking on the field."

By sticking to that philosophy, Williams was assured his measure of respect among the fans would remain intact. "One thing that helped me is I kept my mouth shut about the contract and concentrated on playing baseball," he said. "By putting it aside, it really has helped me focus ... on the field. I didn't worry about the things ... that I could not control."

Piazza couldn't control everything about his arrival. He didn't portray himself as a franchise savior, the talk-show hosts did. He can't give himself ample opportunities to collect RBI; the weak-hitting Mets must put runners on base for him.

Yet, for someone who turned down \$84m from the Dodgers and will no doubt request the largest salary in the majors to stay in New York, Piazza hasn't raised his standards high enough to meet the price. You don't ground into double plays with two runners on and then demand \$100m. The Mets would be wise to use that money to patch a hole in their outfield and add a hitting infielder instead.

It's a different scene at Yankee Stadium. In his last at-bat Monday, Williams heard cheers and hit his 15th home run. Life is good in New York when you can convince thousands that you're worth millions. (Newsday)

Corretja survives third-set tiebreak

MASON, Ohio (AP) — Alex Corretja's first-round match Monday at the ATP Championship was no trip to the beach, although that's where the Spaniard has been spending time lately.

Corretja, playing his first hard-court match since March — and his first match of any kind after a three-week vacation — needed three sets and more than 2½ hours to outlast Alex O'Brien 6-3, 6-7 (3-7), 7-6 (9-7).

"It was good because it was good for my physical condition and my mental game because after like 20 days off, it is always difficult to make a comeback," Corretja said.

"But today, for me, it was my first match, so I was hungry to be on the court and hungry to play tennis," Corretja, ranked 12th in the ATP Tour rankings released Monday, said he was invigorated by his vacation in Barcelona.

"I was just having some fun and just trying to go to the beach and to the pool," Corretja said. "Right now I feel fresh again."

O'Brien, who has never been ranked higher than 30th, was happy to have pressed Corretja to a third-set tiebreaker.

"I did a lot of positive things. I thought it was a good day because I put a lot of pressure on him," O'Brien said. "I'm my biggest enemy ... today I didn't defeat myself."

As one of the Mercedes Super 9 tournaments, the \$2.45 million Great American Insurance ATP Championship has a spectacular field. Of the top 10 players on tour, only sixth-ranked Greg Rusedski, sidelined by an injury, is absent.

Pete Sampras is the defending champion and No. 1 seed.

Marcelo Rios, who took over the tour's top ranking from Sampras on Monday, is seeded No. 2.



CROWD PLEASER — Tommy Haas from Germany signs autographs at the ATP Championship in Mason, Ohio following his 7-6, 7-6 win over Jim Courier in first-round action.

The tournament lost one seeded player Monday when Jeff Tarango defeated 13th-seeded Alberto Berasategui of Spain 7-5, 6-2.

In other matches involving seeded players, No. 12 Albert Costa of Spain beat Sebastian Grosjean of

France 1-6, 6-4, 6-1 and No. 16 Cedric Pioline of France beat Ramone Delgado of Paraguay 7-6, 6-3.

In other matches, Vince Spadea beat Justin Gimelstob 3-6, 7-6 (10-8), 6-2; Jan-Michael Gambill beat

Olivier Delaite of France 6-1, 6-3; Tommy Haas of Germany beat Jim Courier 7-6 (7-3), 7-6 (7-5); and Guillaume Raoux of France defeated Wolfgang Schranz of Austria 7-6 (7-5), 5-7, 6-4.

Also, Magnus Larsson of

Sweden beat Gianluca Pozzi of Italy 6-4, 7-5; Thomas Johansson of Sweden beat Wayne Black of Zimbabwe 7-6 (7-3), 7-5; and Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands beat countryman Sjeng Schalken 1-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7-2).

Juventus deny rival coach's doping charges

TURIN (Reuters) — Italian champions Juventus hit out yesterday at suggestions their players took performance enhancing drugs but freely acknowledged they used legal "restoratives" to recoup energy.

"Confusion breeds ignorance," the club's chief medical officer Riccardo Agricola told a news conference at the club's training ground in Turin.

"Restoratives, that's to say amino acids, creatine, vitamins, mineral salts and water, are legal and, indeed, it would be a crime not to use them because the body needs to regain equilibrium after heavy exercise," Agricola said he did not think there was a serious doping problem in Italian soccer, contrary to claims made by AS Roma coach Zdenek Zeman in a magazine article last week.

Zeman, a Czech, said drug taking was rife in Italian soccer and singled out one past and one current Juventus player as having achieved "astonishing" and rapid muscle growth.

His comments sparked outrage at Juventus and sent shock waves through the world's most prestigious soccer league, which has been relatively free of doping scandals.

One of the players named said he would sue Zeman over the "unacceptable damage" to his reputation

while the other branded the controversial coach "a terrorist."

Juve said they too would sue Zeman for what club president Vittorio Chianiso described as "an underhand and ambiguous form of defamation which cannot be tolerated."

Yesterday, Juventus general manager Luciano Moggi insisted his players were clean.

"We are a club which works hard and finds treasure through our own effort," he said. "We don't need other things." Zeman was due to appear before an anti-doping committee of the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) later on Tuesday to clarify comments he made on the same subject last month.

He said then that soccer needed to "escape from the pharmacies and the financial offices and get back to being sport and entertainment."

Zeman, who has worked in Italian football for 17 years, is also due to appear before a magistrate in Turin today to explain last week's comments, published by L'Espresso magazine.

"I have the impression that recently (doping) has been on the increase," Zeman told L'Espresso.

"The pressure on players is increasing all the time. It's more and more difficult to resist the temptation of magic pills," he said.

Turkey tries to tame soccer fans

ISTANBUL (Reuters) — Turkey's Interior Ministry said yesterday it had ordered tough security measures at the country's soccer stadiums in a bid to control its passionate and sometimes violent supporters.

In a directive to regional governors, newly-appointed Interior Minister Kulu Akas ordered strict segregation of rival fans, a clamp-down on provocative taunts and announcements and heavy policing after matches to prevent opposing fans clashing.

Police with dogs patrol the terraces during matches but running street battles between rival groups often break out before and after games. It is not uncommon for police to confiscate items such as 50-cm kebab cleavers and knives from fans before games.

The directive also ordered stadium officials to take all loose change from spectators entering the grounds and donate it to the Red Crescent aid agency.

Police have often had to use riot shields to protect players from a hail of coins and lighters as they emerge from the dressing room.

Croatian coach Otto Baric collapsed on the touchline of a league game last season, apparently knocked out by a stone thrown from the terraces.

Nebiolo backs Zurich's tough line on money

ZURICH (Reuters) — World athletics boss Primo Nebiolo yesterday backed Zurich's decision not to accept the alleged financial demands of leading sprinters Maurice Greene and Ato Boldon for the richest meeting in the sport.

Today's big-money event will be without all the world's elite in the 100 meters after world champions Greene and Boldon decided against competing because of differences with promoter Andreas Bruegger.

Greene, the world 100 meters champion, said the row about the most glamorous meeting in the new lucrative Golden League series revolved around a lack of "respect" while Bruegger claimed it was "all about money."

Nebiolo, the president of athletics' world governing body, said he was against the escalation of payments to athletes.

"We approve completely of the decision of Mr. Bruegger not to accept the requests," Nebiolo said. Zurich is the most lucrative of the seven Golden League series which pays out a jackpot of \$1 million to athletes who win their events at all the meetings.

In addition athletes can earn appearance fees as well as winning up to \$15,000 for winning an event and a bonus for world records which for Zurich is \$50,000.

The Zurich 100 meters has Olympic champion Donovan Bailey and leading sprinters such as Namibia's Frankie Fredericks and Canadian Bruny Surin. But it has certainly lost sparkle without Greene and 200 world champion Boldon who have looked sharp in recent weeks.

Negotiations about appearance money have always been tough for promoters. Fees have usually been kept secret and meeting organizers are keen to avoid too much inflation.

It is not known what figures are involved now for big names in Zurich. Two years ago leading athletes could expect to earn at least \$70,000 just for turning up at the Letzgraben stadium.

Bruegger alleges that Greene and Boldon's ideas about money were too high.

Their manager Emanuel Hudson attacked the payment system of the Golden League on Monday because it was not fair on some athletes.

Nebiolo seemed to open the door to changes in the series next year.

"We are gaining experience this season," the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) president said. "Next year we may make changes if we believe changes are needed to be fair to the athletes."

BASEBALL

Continued from Page 20

Astros 5, Brewers 2

Sean Berry hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in the bottom of the eighth and Billy Wagner pitched a perfect ninth for his first save since being struck in the head by a line drive.

Berry, who was 3-for-4, hit the first pitch thrown to him by Chad Fox (0-3) after Jeff Bagwell and Moises Alou singled.

Alou added a two-run homer and was part of a key defensive play as the Astros won their fourth straight.

Wagner picked up his 23rd save in his second appearance since he suffered a concussion and cut ear when he was struck by a liner on July 15 at Arizona.

Scott Elarton (1-0) pitched a hitless eighth for Houston.

Phillies 3, Diamondbacks 0
Curt Schilling pitched a three-hitter in his major league-leading 11th complete game of the season as Philadelphia won on the road.

Schilling (11-11) struck out five and walked one as the Phillies won for just the second time in 12 games. He threw only 94 pitches in his second shutout of the year.

Hard-luck Omar Daal (5-7) nearly pitched his third consecutive complete game, giving up four hits and one earned run in 7½ innings. He lost 2-0 to the Chicago Cubs in his last start on Tuesday.

Rockies 6, Expos 2
Dante Bichette hit a tiebreaking grand slam in the seventh inning and Larry Walker had a solo shot

as Colorado won at home.

Bichette, who was 4-for-5 with a homer and five RBIs on Sunday, broke a 2-2 tie with his 19th homer of the season and sixth grand slam of his career.

The grand slam helped Jamey Wright (7-10) win consecutive decisions for the third time this year. Wright allowed two runs and five hits in seven innings and helped himself at the plate by doubling and scoring a run.

Vladimir Guerrero homered for the Expos, who had won six of their previous seven.

Marlins 3, Padres 2
Florida's Livan Hernandez pitched a five-hitter for his seventh complete game, breaking Kevin Brown's club record, and the visiting Marlins handed Brown his first loss since May 21.

Brown (14-4) was trying to win his 12th straight decision, which would have set the Padres' record.

Hernandez (10-8) pitched his second complete game in three starts. He allowed two runs, struck out six and walked four.

The Marlins scored three runs, two earned, on six hits off Brown in seven innings. Brown struck out seven and walked three.

American League
Orioles 2, Devil Rays 1
Baltimore's Eric Davis had two hits and an RBI to extend his club-record hitting streak to 26 games as the surging Orioles won on the road to record their sixth victory in seven games.

Juan Guzman (8-12) allowed three hits in 5½ innings to improve to 2-0 since the Orioles, who are a major league-best 23-6 since the All-Star break, obtained him in a trade with Toronto.

Reliever Jessie Orosco ended an

eighth-inning threat by retiring Wade Boggs and Fred McGriff with the tying run at second base, and Armando Benitez worked the ninth for his 16th save in 17 opportunities.

Davis, who has hit in 28 of 29 since the break, went 2-for-4 and gave Baltimore a 1-0 lead with RBI double off Tony Saunders (3-11) in the first inning.

Yankees 7, Twins 3
Hideki Iribu allowed just two hits in seven innings and host New York moved 56 games above .500 for the first time in 37 years.

The Yankees are 85-29 and remain on pace to break the single-season record of 116 wins by the 1906 Chicago Cubs. New York has won five straight and improved to 43-8 at home.

The Twins were making their first visit to Yankee Stadium since David Wells pitched a perfect game against them on May 17.

Iribu hit leadoff batter Otis Nixon in the first, but didn't give up a hit until Marty Cordova's leadoff single in the fifth.

The last Yankees team to go 56 games over .500 was the 1961 World Series champions, who finished 109-53.

Scott Brosius and Bernie Williams homered to give a Iribu (11-5) a 7-0 lead after seven innings.

Angels 6, Tigers 2
Gary DiSarcina's double triggered a four-run second inning and Omar Olivares won for the first time since June 17 as Anaheim handed host Detroit its seventh straight loss.

Olivares (6-8), who had lost his previous six decisions, pitched seven strong innings as the Angels won for just the fourth time in 11

games. He allowed two runs and six hits, struck out six and walked four. The victory moved Anaheim within 1½ games of first-place Texas in the AL West.

Luis Gonzalez hit two homers for the Tigers to raise his season

total to a career-high 16.

White Sox 5, Athletics 3
Robin Ventura hit a two-run homer and Jim Parque won for the first time since June 15 as Chicago won at Comiskey.

Ventura, who entered the game

in a 4-for-26 slump, hit his 13th homer of the season in the sixth to give Chicago a 4-3 lead and help the White Sox win for the fifth time in seven games.

Parque (3-4), winless in his six previous starts, gave up three runs

and four hits in six innings. Bill Sinas pitched the ninth for his 13th save.

Kenny Rogers (11-5) failed in his second attempt to get his 100th career victory, giving up five runs and eight hits in eight innings.

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Luxemburgo named as Brazil coach

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuters) — Vanderley Luxemburgo was named as the new coach of the Brazil soccer team yesterday.

Luxemburgo, 46, was officially presented as replacement to veteran Mario Zagallo during a media conference at the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF).

Luxemburgo, who was a little-known full back in his playing days and did not play international soccer, has made his name since he turned to coaching and until this appointment was in charge of Sao Paulo club Corinthians.

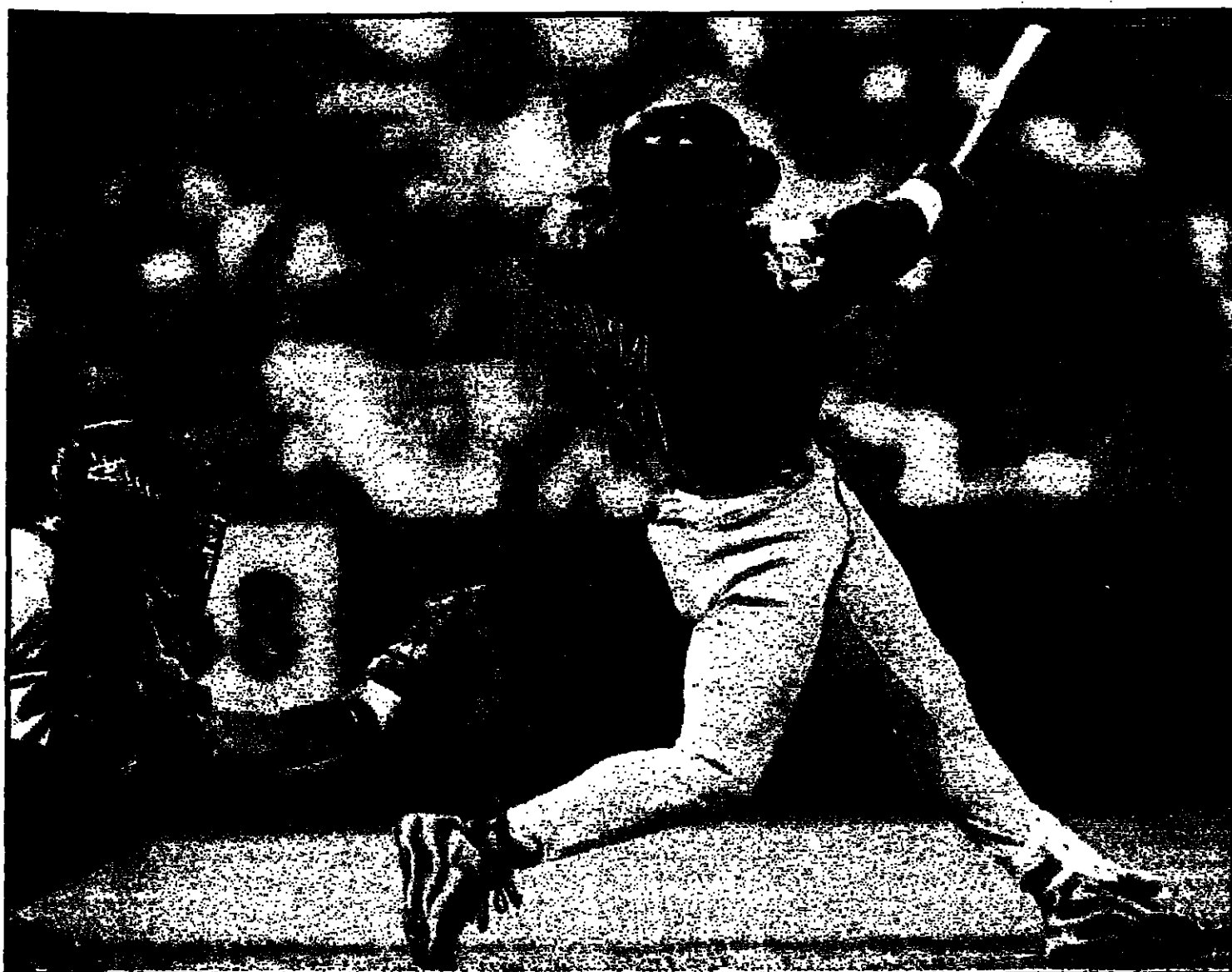
He has been hugely successful in the last five years, winning the Paulista (Sao Paulo state) championship three times and Brazilian championship twice with Palmeiras.

He came to the fore after winning the Paulista championship with Bragantino, a small provincial club, in 1990. He has also coached Flamengo and Santos but has never played or coached outside Brazil.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL — Israel's results in the inaugural Junior Boys Softball championships in Prague:

Game 1: Israel 12, Denmark 11 (winning pitcher Tomer Glantz).
Game 2: Netherlands 16, Israel 6 (losing pitcher Glantz).
Game 3: Denmark 9, Israel 7 (Israel's Shlomo Lipitz hit an in-stadium home run).



EVEN STEVEN — Cubs' Sammy Sosa tees off against Giants starting pitcher Russ Ortiz for his 45th home run in fifth-inning action. Two innings later, he hit his 46th, tying him with the Cardinals' Mark McGwire for the major league lead. (Reuters)

Sosa draws even with 46th

Schilling hurls 11th complete game; O's Davis hit streak at 26

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Sammy Sosa hit his 45th and 46th homers to tie Mark McGwire for the major league lead as the Chicago Cubs beat the San Francisco Giants, 8-5 on Monday.

Sosa's first homer of the night, in the fifth inning, was a towering blast into the first row of the left-field bleachers. It was the first of three consecutive solo shots by the Cubs.

His second one, in the seventh, a solo blast over the center-field bleachers estimated at 480 feet, pulled him even for the first time this season with McGwire — who went homerless in St. Louis' loss to the New York Mets.

Tyler Houston added a two-run shot as the Cubs hit five homers on a balmy night with the wind blowing out at 20 mph. Chicago broke a four-game losing streak.

Mets 4, Cardinals 2
Todd Hundley hit his first home run this season and Al Leiter pitched seven strong innings, leading New York to a road win.

Leiter (11-4) helped silence Mark McGwire, who struck out three times — twice against Leiter and once against Turk Wendell with a runner on in the eighth — as the Cardinals' five-game winning streak ended.

Hundley, who missed the first

half of the season while recuperating from elbow and shoulder surgeries, hit a two-run homer in the third off Matt Morris (3-2) to snap a 2-2 tie.

John Olerud's hitting streak stopped at 23 games, one shy of the Mets club record set by Hubie Brooks in 1984. Olerud went 0-for-3 with a walk and scored a run.

See **BASEBALL**, Page 18

Hap. TA take slim 1-0 lead to Stromsgodset

BY OFER RONEN-ABELS

Hapoel Tel Aviv sweated for 75 minutes before breaking the deadlock as Assi Tubi managed to squeeze in the winner against Stromsgodset of Norway in their UEFA Cup tie at Bloomfield yesterday.

The 35 degrees of heat and 80 percent humidity didn't scare the 10,000 fans who turned up at Bloomfield Stadium to watch Hapoel in a game which was hard to watch and even harder to play as the weather took center stage.

"We should thank all our players for helping Hapoel Tel Aviv in their bid to succeed in Europe after playing in these conditions" said chairman Moshe Teomin in a post match press conference.

"Whoever disregards the weather as a factor when he mentions this game makes a big mistake" added coach Eli Cohen answering to criticism by national team coach Shlomo Scharf.

The first half was played under extreme conditions and didn't hold much. Hapoel tried to find a way past "Godset's" bolstered defense led by former Chelsea center back Erlend Johnson, who skipped the side on his debut, but were limited to only two shots on goal.

Tubi's effort from the edge of the box, after 15 minutes hitting the bottom of the post and Shalom Tikva's 20-meter drop kick flew over the crossbar.

Two minutes past the hour Davor Rupnick, who had a quite game, tried to curl a free kick but Glenn Arne Hansen in Godset's goal collected a flying save.

With 15 minutes left on the clock the deadlock was finally broken. Midfielder Morten Kihle was taken off with a knee injury and as the Norwegians failed to regroup, Tikva and Tubi combined to score Hapoel's winner in what was another spectacular effort from the duo.

Tikva collected the ball near the center circle and started a rally of one-tos with Tubi before releasing the young striker to score his third goal in as many games.

On the losing side, coach Doug Vidar Christophersen who was missing his star striker Jostein Flo through injury was disappointed to lose a goal at such a late stage of the game but felt confident about the home leg.

"We shall put a lot of pressure on Hapoel as we will play our normal English-style game and beat them over the two legs" he said.

"We have a great chance playing them in our weather after losing by only one goal" said a soaking wet Johnson who added that normally this heat used to drag him down the beach at Portsmouth — or Southampton when he was still at Stamford Bridge and not onto a football pitch. "We were missing Flo badly and his tall figure up front will make all the difference" he concluded.

Betar face tough test in Lisbon tonight

By ORI LEWIS

National League champions Betar Jerusalem will have a chance to test their skill against the might of European competition tonight when they take on Portugal's Benfica in Lisbon.

The match, which kicks off at 23:00 Israel time (Live TV broadcast: Channel 24, live radio commentary: Radio 2) is the first leg of the second qualifying round for the lucrative European Champions' League — the stage when the men and the boys are sorted out.

No Israeli club has ever made it to the Champions' League, and the chances of Betar breaking the trend this time look fairly unlikely.

If for no other reason, debt-ridden Benfica, threatened by a UEFA ban for being unable to meet payments to clubs for players they have bought, need to win the tie to secure the generous cash payout which the competition is sure to yield.

On paper, Betar are not a serious match for Benfica. Their manager, Graeme Souness, was quoted yesterday as saying "We will finish the job

off on Wednesday, but we must be careful not to make mistakes."

The Portuguese have a star-studded lineup with Karel Poborsky, Joao Pinto and former Maccabi Haifa midfielder Sergei Kandaryev among others. Add to that the roar from the fans in the 120,000-seat "Estadio do Luz" and the Jerusalemites really have a mountain to climb.

Betar will not be able to field Nir Sivilia or new Hungarian signing Tamas Sandor and will undoubtedly play a defensive lineup in the hope of upsetting Benfica's rhythm, who will doubtless become uptight if they fail to crack Jerusalem early on. With Amir Shelah at the back of the defense and Yossi Abukasis playing hard in midfield it appears to be the only chance Dror Kashtan's men have of keeping the return leg at home alive in two weeks' time.

History is not on Betar's side, however. Last year in the same stage of the competition, Betar held Benfica's city rivals Sporting goalless at Teddy Stadium before losing 3-0 in Lisbon.

Lancs stroll past Hants into NatWest final

LONDON (Reuters) — Lancashire strolled into the final of the NatWest Trophy yesterday with a 43-run victory over Hampshire at Southampton, even though they were without their captain Wasim Akram.

The Pakistani Test all-rounder dropped out at the last minute with a toe injury.

"When I took over this season I told my players they could win any trophy if they worked hard," he said.

"We are also well placed in the championship and if we beat Yorkshire this weekend I am sure we can mount a good challenge to Surrey."

Wasim's place as captain was taken by England batsman John Crawley who made the top score of 79 as Lancashire hit 252 in their 60 overs.

Crawley and Neil Fairbrother (58) put on 116 for the second wicket after Lancashire had been put in to bat.

Hampshire made only 209 for

nine, despite a partnership of 104 for the sixth wicket by man-of-the-match Dmitri Mascarenhas (73) and Kevin James (52).

At one stage Lancashire, 176 for two, seemed likely to score at least 300 runs but three quick wickets by Mascarenhas opened the way for a Hampshire win on a fast outfield.

The key to the Lancashire bowling success was an opening spell in which their pacemen Peter Martin and Ian Austin (3-25) reduced Hampshire to 28 for five.

Austin bowled his first six overs for four runs and returned to bowl James with the first ball of his second spell.

Martin, chosen for the England one-day international squad earlier in the day, captured the important Hampshire wickets of former England players John Stephenson and Robin Smith, the county captain, who averages 88 in the competition.

Leicestershire meet Derbyshire tomorrow in the second semifinal.

NBA will refund money for season-tickets with interest if lockout lasts

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Basketball Association sent out a strong signal Monday that the lockout could last for months, announcing that season ticket payments will be refunded with interest if the work stoppage forces the cancellation of games.

Also Monday, the league gave the National Labor Relations Board its official response to the complaint filed last month by the players union, alleging the NBA committed an unfair labor practice by imposing a lockout before reaching an impasse in negotiations.

In Atlanta, union director Billy Hunter held a briefing for some of the locked-out players, and attendees included Kevin Gammet and Stephon Marbury of the Timberwolves.

No new bargaining talks are scheduled. The last formal session ended abruptly last Thursday when owners walked out of the room after hearing the players' latest proposal.

Season ticket holders, most of

whom already have paid for their seats for the 1998-99 season, will receive 6 percent interest on their money if regular-season games, due to begin November 3, are canceled because of the lockout.

"Season ticket holders make substantial financial commitments to our teams and we think they should be treated fairly in the unfortunate event that games are missed," Granik said. "A refund policy that includes interest is the right thing to do in this instance."

Holders of single-game tickets will be entitled to a refund or a rain check.

On the NLRB front, the next move will be made by Daniel Silverman, regional director of the New York office, who must determine if the players' complaint has merit. He would then report to the full board in Washington, which would decide if the agency should ask a federal judge to issue an injunction restoring the old work rules that expired at midnight June 30 when the old agreement elapsed.

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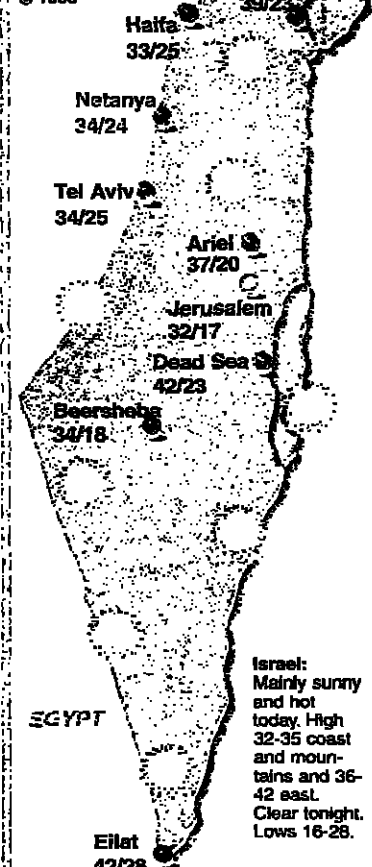
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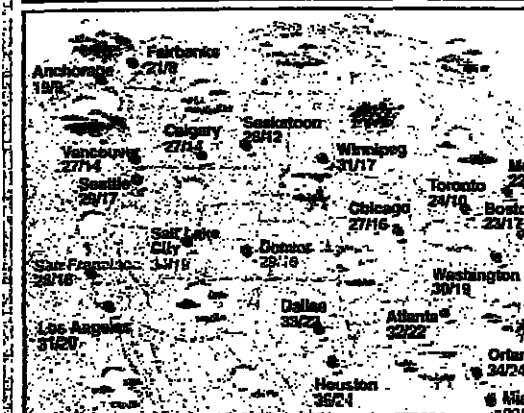
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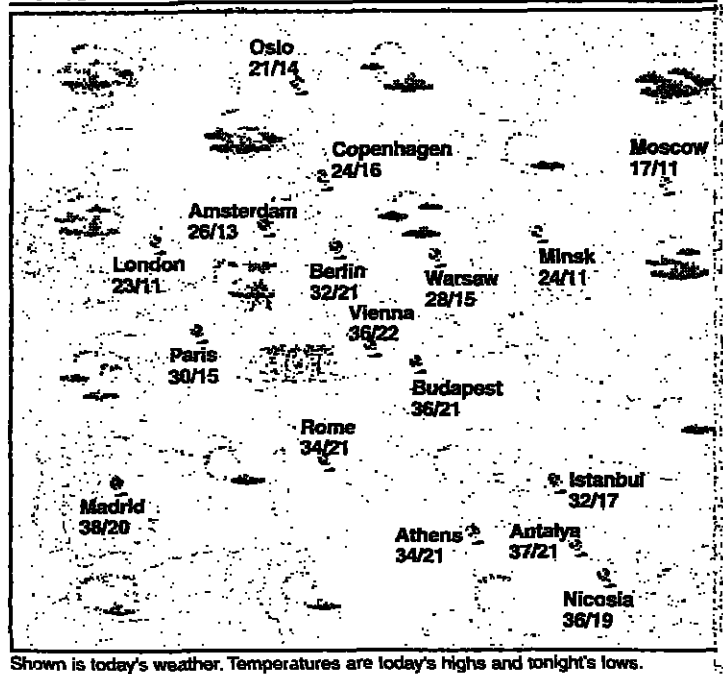
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NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Ariel	37/98	20/68	39/102	22/71	37/98	20/68	39/102	20/68
Beer Sheva	34/93	18/64	36/97	20/68	35/97	22/71	36/97	22/71
Dead Sea	42/107	23/73	42/107	25/77	44/111	27/83	44/111	27/83
Eilat	42/107	28/82	42/107	28/82	44/111	28/82	42/107	26/82
Haifa	33/91	25/77	33/91	25/77	33/91	27/80	35/95	27/80
Jerusalem	32/89	17/62	34/93	19/66	34/93	21/70	34/93	21/70
Katzi	33/102	18/64	33/102	18/64	33/102	20/68	41/106	22/71
Netanya	34/93	24/75	34/93	24/75	34/93	24/75	35/97	25/77
Tel Aviv	34/93	25/77	34/93	25/77	35/97	25/77	35/97	25/77
Tiberias	38/102	23/73	39/102	23/73	41/106	25/77	41/106	27/80

Weather (W): b=cloudy, pc=partly cloudy, c=clear, sh=showers, H=high, L=low, S=snow, A=arctic, F=fog, M=moon, N=noon, P=precipitation, R=rain, T=temp, W=wind.

Aug 14 Aug 22 Aug 30 Sept 6

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today		Thursday		Friday	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Amsterdam	28/79	13/55	19/65	14/57	24/75	17/65
Beijing	35/65	26/79	34/68	27/80	32/68	24/75
Bombay	32/88	21/70	29/73	19/50	21/70	16/55
Brussels	26/82	14/57	22/71	13/53	26/79	17/62
Cairo	38/100	25/77	39/102	27/77	38/100	25/77
Chicago	27/80	16/51	26/82	17/62	29/84	18/64
Frankfurt	32/88	21/70	24/75	14/57	21/70	14/57
Hong Kong	31/88	25/77	31/88	25/77	31/88	25/77
Johannesburg	24/75	14/57	24/75	14/57	24/75	14/57
London	23/73	11/52	19/65	10/50	21/70	14/57
Los Angeles	31/88	20/68	32/88	19/66	32/88	18/64
Madrid	39/102	20/68	39/102	19/66	39/102	19/66
Mexico City	26/79	13/55	24/75	14/57	26/79	14/57
Montreal	22/71	11/52	22/71	10/50	22/71	10/50
Moscow	17/62	11/52	16/51	9/49	23/73	15/65
New York	28/82	19/66	28/82	19/66	28/82	21/70
Paris	30/88	19/66	24/75	11/52	24/75	13/53
Peking	33/91	22/73	28/79	16/51	23/73	13/53
Puerto Rico	28/82	22/73	28/82	21/70	27/80	19/66
Rome	34/93	21/70	33/91	21/70	31/88	21/70
Sydney	19/64	11/52	21/70	12/53	19/64	11/52
Tokyo	33/91	27/80	33/91	27/80	31/88	27/80
Toronto	24/75	10/50	25/77	14/57	27/80	15/65
Vienna	33/91	22/73	34/93	18/64	27/80	17/62
Warsaw	28/82	15/59	27/80	12/53	27/80	13/53
Washington	20/68	10/50	20/68	10/50	20/68	13/53

סוכן מלאכה